

Paisley parade of 500 men brings swift condemnation

The Rev Ian Paisley's parade of "loyalist" strength in Ulster yesterday has brought swift condemnation. In the demonstration, 500 men were drawn up and, at a whistle blast, apparently raised

firearms certificates in their right hands [Report, page 3]. The Government said any illegal act would be dealt with and the Official Unionists condemned the parade as a publicity stunt.

Minister refuses to ban UDA

Defence Association, which has said it will contest May's local elections. There was concern yesterday that members of paramilitary groups, even members of the Royal Ulster Constabulary or the Ulster Defence Regiment, might have been among the 500 men. Five selected journalists, including myself, were taken to see the demonstration of strength. We heard a bitter and furious attack on Mrs Margaret Thatcher's talks with the Prime Minister of the Irish Republic last year, and the joint studies which are now taking place. Mr Paisley said that Northern Ireland's constitutional position was on the negotiating table. He demanded that the talks should cease immediately. He said that the 500 men were prepared to resist to the death any attempt to form a united Ireland and that they represented thousands of "loyalists" who would defend the union with Britain. He added: "We will shortly challenge the Government to interfere with us and our province if they dare and we will with equanimity await the result." The Protestant News Letter newspaper commented yesterday that a successor to Lord Carson's Ulster Volunteer Force had been born and that the mantle of founder had been assumed by Mr Paisley. With the H-block issue blowing up again and another hunger strike threatened in three weeks Mr Paisley's action means that the screw is being turned relentlessly on the Government from both sides of the political divide. The Social Democratic and Labour Party said that the province had witnessed a paramilitary force intimidating the British Government and the people of the province. Mr Pitt, now an Independent MP for Belfast, West, said that the show of strength could not be ignored. The Government should find out what guns the 500 men possessed (journalists were given no opportunity to examine the certificates the men brandished) and whether they belonged to the security forces. When Mr Paisley paraded the men he was careful to insist that no weapons were present or uniform worn. It was not an army or paramilitary force and no paramilitary groups were involved. When he was asked directly if members of the security forces were present he refused to answer. The Official Ulster Unionists, who oppose Mr Paisley's Democratic Unionist Party said through one of their leading figures, Mr William Thompson, that the incident was a publicity gimmick designed to demonstrate that "Lords of the Castle" reality he was the Grand Old Duke of York who, having led his men up the hill, would march them down again after the elections in May. Whitehall reaction: MPs at Westminster said that Mr Paisley was indulging in an electioneering stunt timed for the local elections (Our Political Staff writes). Some members were perturbed at the development and it is expected that it will be raised in the Commons on Monday. Mountainside parade, page 3. Leading article, page 15.



The Arab dhow, Sinbad, built of string, wood and coconut to prove the existence of a ninth century trade route between Oman and China, off Sri Lanka, its first landfall on the route.

Poland dismisses four officials to end strike

Warsaw, Feb 6.—An 11-day strike by 200,000 workers in southern Poland ended today with the Government capitulating to demands that four local officials be removed for alleged corruption and abuse of power. Sources in the Bielsko-Biala province said that the Pope had personally intervened in the dispute by asking local church leaders to mediate, and as a result, Bishop Bronislaw Dabrowski had taken part in negotiations. "This is a big victory for the entire nation," Mr Lech Walesa, the leader of independent Solidarity trade union organisation, told workers after the all-night negotiating session. Local union leaders signed the agreement at 4 am and called off the strike two hours later. "A dangerous social pact was defused in the name of the good of the country," Bishop Dabrowski said. The Government said no workers would be punished for joining the strike, which had virtually paralysed the province for 11 days. At least 120 plants have been idle, including the large Polski-Fiat motor factory.

Information Bill looks doomed to failure

By Hugh Noyes Parliamentary Correspondent Westminster. The Freedom of Information Bill was effectively killed yesterday in the Commons when it failed to receive its second reading. Although the private member's measure, which was opposed by the Government but had a good chance of becoming law if it had been sent on to its committee stage was not defeated on second reading, the adjournment of the debate means that instead of having a priority position in the list of private members' Bills, it will go to the bottom of the list and is unlikely to be heard of again during the present session of parliament. The motion to close the debate and so allow a second reading vote was lost by 172 votes to 111, a majority against the Bill. Mr Barney Hayhoe, Minister of State, Civil Service, began his criticisms of the Bill some what disarmingly by congratulating Mr Frank Hooley, Labour MP for Sheffield, Healey, and the Bill's sponsor, for introducing the measure. Mr Hayhoe found it rather hard to take that the Government was being accused on the one hand of being one of the least open in record while at the same time not being as free enough with its disclosures. He insisted that some measure of confidentiality was at the essence and heart of good government. He issued a warning that if one barrier was to be demolished by the Bill then other barriers would be erected which might be less efficient. On the part of the Bill that repealed the "catch all" section of the Official Secrets Act, Mr Hayhoe said that it left some glaring and deadly loopholes and did not provide a workable system for the release of information. He also pointed out that costs would be enormous with a new building equal to the present Public Records Office being required every two or three years. There were about 1,000 miles of files in the government machine, 90 per cent of which were destroyed before reaching the PRO. The effect of the Bill was that all this material would have to be preserved. Mr Hooley, explaining that his purpose was to establish a general right of access to official documents for members of the public, subject to certain exemptions, and to repeal Section 2 of the Official Secrets Act, 1911, pleaded that this was not a revolutionary measure. It was a cautious and modest step towards more open government. The Bill provided for certain categories of information such as defence, security and intelligence, currency and reserves, law enforcement, criminal procedures, commercial confidentiality and personal privacy to be exempt from the Bill's provisions. A citizen would have the right of access to information about himself held in government files but not information about other people. The central thrust of the Bill, Mr Hooley said, was to get an intelligent flow of information between government and the governed so as to arrive at more intelligent social and economic policies. The Bill was not intended to reveal juicy scandals but to prevent them taking place. He continued on page 2, col 3.

Indian time capsule hides bone of contention

From Trevor Fishlock Delhi, Feb 6. The extraordinary case of the exhumed time capsule, the centre of a rather delicious political and academic row in India, is being discussed by the Indian cabinet. The capsule, containing recordings, portraits of national heroes, coins and a 10,000-word history of post-independence India, was solemnly interred at Delhi's Red Fort on Independence Day in 1973. That was during the time of the Congress Party rule. The contents of the capsule were meant for the enlightenment of historians five thousand years hence. But, unfortunately, during the reign of the Janata government in 1977, the contents of the history in the capsule were leaked. A lot of fur was rubbed the wrong way. The history was attacked as "unbalanced and incorrect". It was criticized for alleged bias in favour of the Nehru family. There were complaints that some prominent people in the story of India had been dismissed in a few words. And there was only a paragraph about Mahatma Gandhi. With the argument at fever pitch, the Janata government ordered the exhumation of the 280lb capsule, four and a half years after its ceremonial burial. Inevitably there was a suspicion in the Congress Party that the Janata had unearthed the things as an act of political malice. Many in the Congress were considerably miffed. Not surprisingly, therefore, with the Congress Party back in power, the question of re-burying the capsule has now arisen. The cabinet has recently discussed the matter and ordered a feeling that certain "factual inaccuracies" in the history should be rectified. Meanwhile, the cabinet is not at all certain that the capsule should be committed to the earth again. But failure to re-bury it might be construed as an admission that the Janata was right. For some Congress people that would never do. And, given the Indian love of argument, there would always be the strong possibility that, once reburied, the capsule would be dug up again and worried like a well-loved bone.

Company chief to give up 'red rag' Rolls

Mr James Duffield, managing director of a furnishings company at Ilkeston, near Nottingham, is giving up his £20,000 Rolls-Royce for a mini Metro because he does not want to upset the unemployed. "A Rolls is like a red rag to a bull in the present economic situation," he said. His car has been subjected to a series of attacks. The aerial has been shot off, £300 worth of damage done to the tyres and two bonnet badges have been seen through. Mr Duffield said: "A Rolls is not the right sort of car to drive in a depression. It attracts a tremendous lot of criticism and abuse." The 80 employees of his company have had their wages frozen, although there is full employment at the factory. Continued on page 2, col 3.

3L car men reject strike action over dismissals

From Clifford Webb Midlands Industrial Correspondent Birmingham. A mass meeting of employees BL's Longbridge car plant yesterday against a strike to secure the reinstatement of six stewards. It was the second day of shop stewards' orders this week. On Monday the works committee led by Mr Jack Adams, a plant convenor, had proposed a meeting of more than 40 shop stewards to back a campaign of selective strikes. Stewards insisted, however, at the issue was too serious to be decided by them and could be put to the 15,000 work force. In the event only 5,000 came yesterday's meeting on a laying field. Mr Adams delivered a detailed review of the circumstances leading to the car riot of November 21 and the dismissals that followed. After 15 minutes groups of workers began to get restless and chanted: "Vote, vote, vote." The aid of a bank of loudspeakers, Mr Adams pressed on. He freely admitted that disgraceful things happened on November 21, including extensive damage not only to company property but to the personal possessions of men who tried to remain at work. But he insisted that it was all an expression of the desperation felt by workers blocked at every turn by a recalcitrant management. Dismissal of six stewards was the only avenue remaining to force the company to impose lesser sentences. The meeting overwhelmingly rejected his recommendation. Unlike his flamboyant predecessor Mr Derek Robinson, who was dismissed last year after urging a campaign of disruption, Mr Adams has adopted a deliberate policy of leading from the back. He was well aware of further widespread antipathy to further action and sought to confine it to a show of force in the vital Metro assembly area. Mr Adams was outmanoeuvred by shop stewards representing other sections of the plant who knew, in insisting on a mass meeting, that most workers would not want to endanger their new production bonuses, now more than £15 a week. Letters, page 15.

Lord Denning says civil liberties official was guilty of a serious contempt

By Frances Gibb Miss Harriet Harman, legal officer of the National Council for Civil Liberties, was guilty of a serious contempt of court in releasing Home Office documents read out in open court to a journalist, the Court of Appeal ruled unanimously yesterday. Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, said he regarded the use made of the documents by the journalist in the case to be "highly detrimental to the good order of our society." He added: "They were used so as to launch a wholly unjustified attack on ministers of state and high civil servants, who were only doing their very best to deal with a wicked criminal who had harassed society and was serving a long sentence for armed robbery." Miss Harman was responsible for that use. She had abused her privileged position in releasing confidential documents by allowing a journalist free access to them, not caring how he would use them. "To my mind her part in this, her conduct, was not 'extremely trivial' as The Times described it," he said. "It was a serious contempt by a solicitor of the Supreme Court, which is much to be regretted." No public interest whatsoever was served by having those highly confidential documents made public. "Quite the other way. It was in the public interest that these documents should be kept confidential and not exposed to the ravages of outsiders." Lord Denning, Lord Justice Templeman and Lord Justice Dunn unanimously dismissed the appeal by Miss Harman against a judgment in November in an action brought by the Home Office that she had committed a serious contempt of court. They ordered her to pay all the costs of the hearing, estimated in excess of £15,000, and refuse her leave to appeal to the House of Lords. Afterwards, Miss Patricia Hewitt, general secretary of the NCCL, said: "This disgraceful judgment makes a mockery of open court proceedings. In future the full reporting of cases of public interest will depend on the whims of the defendant and the financial resources of the journalist." It was ridiculous, she said, to suggest that Mr David Leigh, The Guardian journalist in the case, or Miss Harman, should have asked permission from the Home Office, which had done everything it could to keep the documents secret. The Court of Appeal had created the absurd situation where the Director of Public Prosecutions and those acting for him could display to the press letters written by Jeremy Thorpe, without his permission, but where documents read out in open court might not even be shown to a court reporter. Miss Harman said the ruling was a dire warning to all who dared criticize the Government. The NCCL would ask the Home Office not to enforce the order as to costs. "It is quite unfair that we should have to pay for the law to be changed," she added. Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, Labour MP for Ormskirk and chairman of the parliamentary Labour Party civil liberties group, said: "If Harriet Harman has committed a serious contempt, then the law is wrong and must be changed." There would be tremendous effort to amend the Contempt of Court Bill through the Commons, he said. Continued on page 2, col 1.

Fraser empire revalues to beat Lonrho

Revaluation of House of Fraser operates, will form the basis of new offer to defeat a Lonrho takeover bid. The valuation is believed to be £112m on Harrods alone and £460m on all the 111 department stores. Harrods has raised its stake in Fraser to 29.9 per cent, just below the 30 per cent level which would have made a bid obligatory. It acquired 1000 shares at 142p each, 3p less than its offer price. The new valuation would give the group an asset value of 306p a share, more than twice that on offer. Page 19.

Kidnap of Jordan envoy in Beirut

Pro-Syrian militia claim responsibility for kidnapping the Jordanian chargé d'affaires from his Beirut apartment. They have threatened to murder him unless the Amman authorities return two defecting Syrian air force pilots. Jordan has hinted at Syrian Government connivance. Page 4.

Citizen Bill move

An amendment to the Nationality Bill tabled by the Government proposes that any child born in the United Kingdom who does not acquire British citizenship at birth shall have the right to obtain it after 10 years' continuous residence irrespective of the parents' status. Page 2.

Fishermen's dispute

The inshore fishing fleets of England, Northern Ireland and Scotland are likely to stay in port until Thursday pending the result of talks on the common fisheries policies. Plans have been made for other action including a demonstration in London and picketing if no satisfactory news is received. Page 3.

Fire service pay conflict likely

A decision by the local authorities to withdraw formally from the 1977 formula linking firemen's earnings with those of skilled workers has raised the prospect of renewed pay conflict within the fire service later this year. The employers say that future pay talks should take account of circumstances at the time. Page 2.

Paris: Franco-German summit finds unity in distrustful Britain and America

Melbourne: Washington to expand key base in Australia. BFC dispute: Journalists threaten a strike over alleged censorship of Panorama programme. Classified contents: Personal, pages 6, 26; Home and Garden, 24; Postal Shopping, 24; Holidays and Hotels in Great Britain and Ireland, 7; Appointments, 6.

£500m torpedo bids

Bids have been submitted for a £500m contract for a heavyweight torpedo to replace the Tigerfish, which has been in service in the Royal Navy's submarines for only eight years. Page 3.

Missiles plea to Dutch by Mrs Thatcher

The Hague, Feb 6.—Mrs Thatcher tonight made an indirect appeal to The Netherlands to allow new nuclear missiles to be based on Dutch soil as part of a Nato modernization programme. Speaking at a brief press conference here after talks with Mr Dries Van Agt, the Dutch Prime Minister, she said the West had to upgrade its weaponry to counter the growing military might of the Soviet Union. "If you value your way of life, the freedoms we have in the West you must be prepared to defend it," she said.

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Tehran violence. Several people were injured in violent Tehran street clashes as supporters of two left-wing groups clashed with Muslim fundamentalists. Violence erupted after the leftist-led government order prohibiting them to demonstrate. Revolutionary guards went into action and dispersed them with tear gas. Page 5.



## HOME NEWS

## Fire service conflict likely over move to end pay formula

By Donald Macintyre  
Labour Reporter

The prospect emerges of renewed pay conflict within the fire service later this year after a decision by the local authorities to withdraw formally from the 1977 formula linking firemen's earnings with those of skilled workers.

The Fire Brigades' Union successfully preserved the formula for the present pay round when they won a two-stage 18.6 per cent pay deal in December. A series of one-day strikes took place in response to the authorities' initial 6 per cent offer.

The Conservative-dominated employers' body has voted to give notice of withdrawal from the formula, embodied in the agreement that ended the 1977-78 strike that lasted nine weeks.

Mr Brian Rusbridge, secretary of the employers' side, says in a letter to the union and distributed to all 64 fire authorities that the local authorities consider that "in future pay negotiations should be conducted according to the circumstances prevailing".

It adds that "as the agreement takes no account of the employers' ability to pay, supply and demand, and productivity considerations, it is inflexible to be sustained".

The letter adds that the employers want the firemen's settlement date changed from November to January from the

1982-83 pay year. That would take them out of their present exposed position at the beginning of the annual public sector wages round.

The employers will discuss their decision with the union on February 16 and will outline in detail several efficiency measures they are seeking.

It is believed that the employers may aim to hold firemen to a 6 per cent rise in November, 1981. Government assumptions at present are that the pay level will form part of the calculations for the rate support grant in 1982-83 as well as in the current financial year.

Although the employers made it clear in December that they would not guarantee to honour the formula next year, the move is likely to provoke hostility at the union's annual delegates conference in May. That will decide on the union's response.

One impediment in what is certain to be a critical precursor to next year's wage round is the impact of the county council elections in May. A big swing away from the Conservatives could mean Labour dominating the employers' body.

The employers want more stations to be manned in the daytime only, particularly in small towns and some suburban areas. They also want to vary the number of men on shifts to match the level of activity and to give management more power in fixing rotas, as well as lifting the six-year union ban on voluntary overtime.

## Ambulancemen reject offer of 6% increase

By Our Labour Staff

Leaders of 17,000 ambulancemen are to seek urgent talks with Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, after rejecting a 6 per cent pay offer at a meeting yesterday.

The Department of Health and Social Security employers' side, who will also be seeking talks with Mr Jenkin, made the offer although they told union negotiators that they had still not formally received details of the cash limits under

which they would be operating. Mr Roger Poole, assistant national secretary for ambulancemen in the National Union of Public Employees, said that the unions wanted to maintain the ambulancemen's position in the pay league afforded by the comparable settlement at the end of the 1978-79 winter. That would call for a rise of about 18 per cent.

Leaders of 200,000 hospital ancillary staff, who were made a 6 per cent offer in similar circumstances, expect to meet Mr Jenkin on Monday.

## 'Times' unions offer disputes pact

By Our Labour Staff

Printing unions yesterday agreed their own version of a draft disputes agreement for *The Times* which pledges continuous production but does not contain clauses directly penalizing employees who take part in unofficial stoppages and their colleagues.

After five hours of talks yesterday national officers of the four main printing unions and the three covering skilled ancillary workers agreed an eight-point plan which will be put to Mr Rupert Murdoch, prospective owner of *The Times*, on Monday. The document is also expected to be put to the Newspaper Publishers' Association as the union drive to agree a document aimed at curbing unofficial disputes throughout Fleet Street.

The document, which falls short of what News International has been seeking from a graded disputes procedure starting with the union office branch (union office branch) representatives and departmental managers, and ending at the final stage with the intervention of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service or an independent arbitrator.

It is also understood to undertake "that there will be no stoppage of work or lockout of either part or general character, eg, holding of chapel meetings which disrupt production without management agreement", or interference with normal working or other industrial action without the agreed procedure being exhausted.

Mr William O'Neill, one of the senior Murdoch negotiators

who continued talks with chapels yesterday said, last night he remained hopeful of concluding agreements by Thursday.

Despite the absence of what the unions describe as penalty clauses from their document it is thought that some union officials might be prepared to consider during negotiations a form of automatic sanction against employees who take part in unofficial stoppages.

Under the News International proposals it is understood that employees taking unofficial action would lose a day's pay on the first night. If the stoppage continued to a second night, members of the same union would be suspended on basic rates. On a third night all printing workers would be suspended on basic rates.

Mr William O'Neill, one of the senior Murdoch negotiators

## Shipowners and union go to ACAS today

By David Felton  
Labour Reporter

Seamen's leaders and the shipping employers go to the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service today to seek a formula to try to settle the month-long dispute. Both sides doubt that a settlement can be reached.

The National Union of Seamen is expected to seek a negotiated settlement above the 12 per cent offer made by the employers, which it has already rejected. Should the union suggest that the dispute be settled through arbitration the union may insist that the 12 per cent offer be laid on the table on account.

The General Council of British Shippers is expected to press the union to negotiate a restructuring of the 12 per cent offer on the basis that that is the most that shipowners can afford. Union officials at today's talks are expected to reject that suggestion.

## Mr Steel sets out priorities for democratic alliance

By Michael Hatfield  
Political Reporter

Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party, last night laid down national priorities for any coalition with a democratic alliance in Parliament and at the next general election.

He included a programme of basic political reform including, "crucially" as he put it, the introduction of a proportional voting system upon which none of the so-called gang of three has committed itself.

Others are a strategy for economic and industrial recovery, along the lines of the Liberal 10-point programme announced last month, which have been welcomed by some on the Council for Social Democracy; multinational economic cooperation within the EEC and wider groupings; and partnership in industry, Mr Steel said.

Mr Steel, Labour MP for Teeside, Thorn-

aby, who supports the Council for Social Democracy, last night told his constituency party general management committee that it should have a special meeting with a view to a "clear" which I will make my position clear."

Mr Wedgwood Benn told a meeting in Gloucester last night: "The British people will have to choose whether they want to support the Labour Party or whether they will vote for a rag bag of right-wing parties, with candidates standing under different labels, but all secretly agreeing on the same, essentially Tory, policies."

"Duty to try": The Council for Social Democracy has a duty to try to bring a new coalition in British politics, even if it turns out to be the harebrained and disastrous. Mr William Rodgers, one of the gang of three, told Oxford University's Fabian Society yesterday (the Press Association reports).

## Strike threat over BBC deletions in film

By Kenneth Gosling

Current affairs journalists employed by BBC Television voted yesterday to start a protest campaign, which could include striking, over the alleged censorship of a *Panorama* film on the security services do not produce a satisfactory outcome.

A mandatory meeting attended by 120 members of the National Union of Journalists unanimously agreed to a motion that emphasized that journalists were not seeking to interfere as trade unionists with the editorial process at the BBC.

But the motion asserted the journalists' right to comment and, if necessary, to protest at any editorial decision that might conflict with the NUJ's ethical code of conduct. The code requires members "to strive to eliminate distortion, news suppression and censorship".

Sir Ian Reddaway, director-general of the BBC, is to hold talks on Tuesday with Mr Kenneth Ashton, general secretary of the NUJ, and Mr Anthony Hearn, general secretary of the Association of Broadcasting and Allied Staffs.

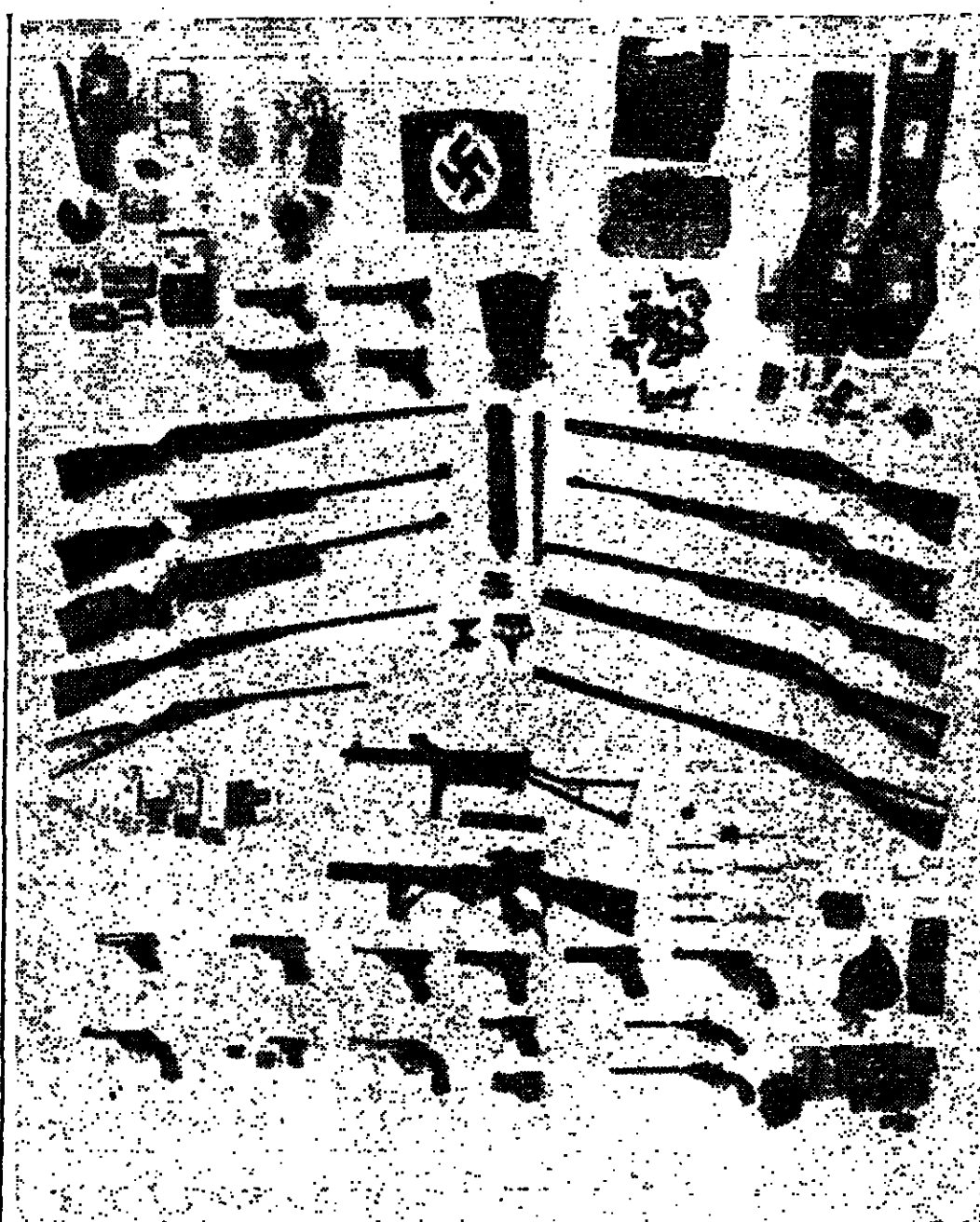
Yesterday's meeting, which expressed concern at cuts made in the projected programme, was given details of the director-general's alleged interference with the way *Panorama* journalists went about their work. At one stage, it was said, Sir Ian instructed them not to approach their contacts in the secret services or even those who had left the services.

A union spokesman said later that one question that would be concerned with was whether the cuts resulted from the director-general's editorial judgment or whether there had been outside interference.

Assurances would also be sought as to whether the security services but also other realms of journalistic investigation were "off limits" to NUJ members. The journalists also wanted to have the original film resubmitted for showing with minor amendments.

The cuts made, it is alleged, include interviews with people who had not said anything prejudicial to state security. One quote alleged to have been deleted is, "the KGB is a threat to the West".

Letter, page 15



An arms cache found by West Midlands Police officers in their investigations.

## Gun training given to neo-Nazis

By Peter Evans  
Home Affairs Correspondent

A number of prominent neo-Nazis attended a weekend training course organized by Column 88, the neo-Nazi group, near Crediton, Devon, in April, 1979, an article in *Police Review* says this week.

Those attending were instructed in the use of revolvers and rifles, the magazine claims on the basis of information from private sources.

The article adds to evidence about rightwing extremism which has convinced Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, to agree to a Home Office study of racist organizations and the feasibility of special police units to monitor and investigate attacks on ethnic minorities.

His decision was taken after discussions with the Joint Com-

mittee against Racism, which reported a big increase in racist attacks on people, property and places of worship. At least 1,000 such attacks had taken place in the past 18 months, it said.

The Home Office will be concerned about allegations of links between European rightwing movement, *Police Review* says this week that the 1980 Nazi rally at Diksmuide in Belgium was attended by British Movement men and women.

"The highlight is reported to have been a meeting of British, French, Italian and American fascists to discuss methods of transporting the arms freely available through their United States sympathizers."

Mr Michael McLoughlin, one of the British Movement's leaders, to show Britain's strength. Mr McLoughlin, when interviewed, said that violence would not come from his people but from the left.

Mr Norman Lewis, a former

highly placed member of the British Movement, who has broken with them, told TV Eye, in a programme broadcast by Thames Television on December 4, that the movement provided a military training. "A lot of the people that instruct one people in training are ex-Army or ex-military in some form."

The training, he said, usually took place weekly in Britain, but people went to special camps, normally for a month, on the Continent. Asked about arms, he said they were kept in most of the large towns.

Mr Lewis said he believed that crimes such as the Paris synagogue bombing in October and the bombing at Bologna railway station, would become more common.

There was great pressure, he said, on Mr Michael McLoughlin, one of the British Movement's leaders, to show Britain's strength. Mr McLoughlin, when interviewed, said that violence would not come from his people but from the left.

Mr Norman Lewis, a former

## Catholic schools want to keep sixth forms

By Diana Geddes  
Education Correspondent

Radical proposals to reorganize Liverpool's 39 selective Roman Catholic secondary schools into 12 comprehensive schools for pupils aged between 11 and 18 have been put forward by a working party and approved by the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Liverpool.

The church is asking for comments on its proposals by the end of next month. It hopes to have the scheme in full operation by September, 1982.

It is particularly interesting that at a time when so many authorities are considering abolishing sixth forms in comprehensive schools in favour of a broken bottle, held Mr Basil Collett, a probation officer, hostage for five hours, at a court in Richmond upon Thames last August was sent to borstal at the Central Criminal Court yesterday after he had admitted stealing and imprisoning Mr Collett.

He did it because he was frustrated when magistrates adjourned a case in which he was accused of taking a car, the prosecution said.

## Youth in siege sent to borstal

Neville Johnston, aged 19, of Southway, London, who, armed with a broken bottle, held Mr Basil Collett, a probation officer, hostage for five hours, at a court in Richmond upon Thames last August was sent to borstal at the Central Criminal Court yesterday after he had admitted stealing and imprisoning Mr Collett.

He did it because he was frustrated when magistrates adjourned a case in which he was accused of taking a car, the prosecution said.

## DPP favours earlier action on police complaints

By Stewart Tendler

The investigation of crimes committed by police officers could be improved by using more officers from other forces and by earlier liaison with the Director of Public Prosecution's office, Sir Thomas Huxford, the DPP, said yesterday.

Speaking at the London Week-end Television's *London Programme* Sir Thomas said that there was much to be said for bringing in more officers from outside forces to check complaints against a particular force. Earlier in the week, inquiries were directed in such a way as to lead to prosecution.

"There are guilty policemen going free just as there are guilty criminals going free but I do not believe the proportion of policemen who are going free for offences which they have committed is any higher."

The lack of confidence in the police had been encouraged by certain elements in society: "the more violent anarchist elements" and those seeking to defend individual rights.

The DPP sympathized with them. "They concentrate on looking after the individual who is up against the police rather than thinking of the interest perhaps of the same extent of all of us in the community who rely on the police."

Sir Thomas said many serious allegations against the police did not lead to court; but the same standards and tests were applied to those cases as were applied to others.

## Citizenship rules for children amended

By Peter Evans  
Home Affairs Correspondent

All children born in the United Kingdom will have the right to acquire British citizenship, provided they fulfil a residence qualification, under an amendment to the Nationality Bill tabled yesterday by the Government.

Protests inside and outside Parliament greeted the Bill's intention that British citizenship should be acquired automatically at birth only by children born here, one of whose parents must be a British citizen, or who was settled here.

The Home Office was worried that now more people are able to travel by air more children would be born here in transit, as it were, or during short visits.

The proposed change would not lead to the automatic acquisition of citizenship by every child. But the amendment to clause 1 which has been tabled will allow any child born in the United Kingdom who does not acquire British citizenship at birth the right to obtain it after 10 years' continuous residence here from the time of his birth, irrespective of his parents' status.

A second proposed amendment is to clause 2. The Bill as introduced would have meant that people who acquired British citizenship by naturalization or registration would have been unable to transmit British citizenship to their children born abroad.

The Home Office says that the change now proposed would, broadly speaking, enable those citizens by registration naturalized to transmit their citizenship to their children born overseas.

Describing the proposed changes as fundamental, Mr Roy Hattersley, opposition spokesman on Home Affairs, said that the Labour Party had denounced the changes as a "backslide" in the Government's intention to drop the Government's agreement to make the changes as a victory for the unremitting campaign by the Labour Party and ethnic nationalists.

Although the proposed changes improve the Bill, it still contained many unacceptable provisions.

Proposals welcomed: The Commission for Racial Equality said: "The changes are a step in the right direction and will be welcomed in all quarters (the Press Association reports)."

It said: "We feel there are other clauses which the Government should remove to take the tension out of the debate. One of the main remaining points is the proposal for three different types of citizenship. There should be only one."

Letters, page 15

## In brief

## Sikh nurse wins trouser ruling

An industrial tribunal upheld the claim of a Sikh Miss Tajinder Kaur, of S. don, that Kingston and Richmond Area Health Authority was guilty of racial discrimination in rejecting her for training as a nurse because religion obliged her to wear trousers.

In their judgment, released yesterday, the tribunal recommended that the health authority should within months delete from its unit regulations the general requirement that female nurses should refrain from wearing trousers.

## £3.120 bill for student

Manchester University debts are being charged £3 for damage caused during a sit-in in November, 1979, money has been deducted from the student union's £25 capital spending fund.

## Peter Sutcliffe remains

Peter William Sutcliffe, 35, a lorry driver, of G. Lane, Heaton, Bradford, who accused of murdering queline Hill, a Leeds University student, was again remanded custody for a week by D. bury magistrates, west Y. shire, yesterday.

## New college rejected

Mr Mark Carlisle, Sec. of State for Education Science, has told Dudley Education Authority, West Midlands, that he cannot approve its plan to transfer sixth-formers from secondary schools in Halesowen area to a new college for 16 to 19-year-olds.

## Woman murder charged

John Luckhurst, 17, of Thorn Estate, P. Kent, was remanded in custody to a date to be fixed at a stone Crown Court yesterday charged with the murder of Gwendoline, aged 79.

## Doctor suspended

Dr Leonard Arthur, aged 40, of Church Broughton, Cheshire, who is on bail charged of murdering a 2. aged three days, has been suspended on full pay by employers, Trent Reg. Health Authority.

## Welsh arson claim

A Welsh group called So Glyndwr, after the warrior liberated Wales from English 600 years ago, yesterday claimed responsibility for arson attacks on holiday huts and boats.

## 'Daily Mail' pay de

Journalists on the *Daily Mail* yesterday accepted a pay increase of more than 14 per cent. The new rate is a pay backdated to January 1.

## Playboy chief better

Mr Victor Lowmes, head of Playboy International, who nursed his wife to death on Thursday, was in a comatose condition at the Rad Infirmary, Oxford, last night.

## AUEW post retained

Mr John Baldwin, aged 45, has been re-elected general secretary of the construction of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers.

## Bombs in cottages

Incendiary bombs were planted in two holiday cottages Pentre Ifan, near Rhyl, Dyfed, yesterday. One exploded, causing minor damage. No was hurt.

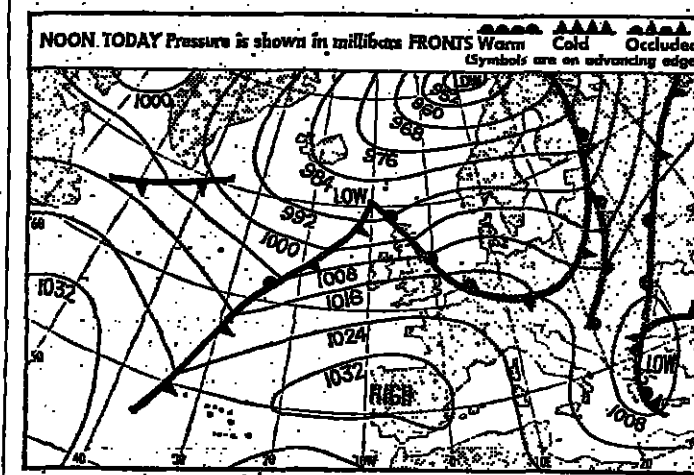
## Security engineers helped burglars break alarms

By Kenneth Richardson, who both worked for ADI security, was recruited separately to assist the burglars by telling them how to deactivate and neutralise the alarms.

The leader of the burglar gang was Michael Gervaise, now awaiting sentence after pleading guilty to burglary charges amounting to £7m.

Counsel said there were successful burglaries at high-class houses where a firm burglar was at the Richmond Metal Box Company.

## Weather forecast and recordings



Today	Sun rises:	Sun sets:
	7.29 am	5.01 pm
	Moon rises:	Moon sets:
	8.57 am	9.23 pm
First quarter:	February 11	
Lighting up:	5.31 pm to 6.56 am	
High water:	London Bridge, 3.21 am, 7.4m; 3.46 pm, 7.5m. Avonmouth, 8.56 am, 13.8m; 9.17 pm, 13.6m. Dover, 12.15 am, 5.6m; 12.32 pm, 6.7m. Hull, 7.55 am, 7.36m; 8.05 pm, 7.5m. Liverpool, 12.38 am, 9.3m; 12.55 pm, 9.8m.	

All parts lie in a strong, mild W airstream.

Forecasts for 5 am to midnight: London, East Anglia, SE, E, Central S and N England, Midlands: Mostly dry, a few sunny intervals; wind SW, fresh; max temp 12°C (54°F).

Chann. Islands, SW, NW England, Wales, Isle of Man: Mostly dry, rather cloudy; wind SW, fresh to strong; max temp 11°C (52°F).

Lake District, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands: Occasional rain or drizzle, becoming mostly dry; wind SW, fresh to strong; max temp 11°C (52°F).

SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, N Ireland: Some rain or drizzle at times, becoming clearer later; wind SW, strong; max temp 11°C (52°F).

Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Outbreaks of rain, heavy at times, clearing later; wind mainly SW, strong to gale; max temp 8°C (46°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Monday: After rain in places at first, brighter, colder, showery weather will spread from N.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY				C, cloud; F, fair; R, rain; S, sun; A, sleet; SN, snow.			
Aberdeen	12	C	10	Cardiff	12	C	10
Aberystwyth	12	C	10	Exeter	12	C	10
Amsterdam	12	C	10	Gloucester	12	C	10
Birmingham	12	C	10	Harrogate	12	C	10
Bristol	12	C	10	Leeds	12	C	10
Belfast	12	C	10	London	12	C	10
Belfast	12	C	10	Manchester	12	C	10
Belfast	12	C	10	Newcastle	12	C	10
Belfast	12	C	10	Nottingham	12	C	10
Belfast	12	C	10	Sheffield	12	C	10
Belfast	12	C	10	Southampton	12	C	10
Belfast	12	C	10	Stirling	12	C	10
Belfast	12	C	10	Swansea	12	C	10
Belfast	12	C	10	Torquay	12	C	10
Belfast	12	C	10	Wolverhampton	12	C	10
Belfast	12	C	10	Wrexham	12	C	10
Belfast	12	C	10	York	12	C	10

## Judge says case has nothing to do with press freedom

Continued from page 1

House of Lords, when it came to the Commons, to cover this point of law, he said.

The case arises from another action brought by a former prisoner who tried unsuccessfully to sue the Home Office for his detention in a special control unit designed for troublemakers. Miss Harman acted as his solicitor.

After the case, heard last year, but before judgment, she allowed Mr Leigh to see Home Office documents released to her by an order of discovery and read out in open court. They formed the basis of an article highly critical of Home Office policy on control units.

Lord Denning said: Miss Harman was under a grave misapprehension if she thought that the NCCL could use the documents as it wished once they had been read out in court.

"I cannot accept that argument for one moment," he added. "It is one of our fundamental human rights that every one has a right to privacy, including those who are in custody, which is a right to his confidential documents."

Lord Justice Dunn said the case had nothing to do with the freedom of the press or communication but with the conduct of a solicitor in litigation and Miss Harman had acted "unprofessionally and irresponsibly".

Mr Ronald Knowles, press officer of the National Union of Journalists, said Lord Denning's judgment ignored the fundamental justification for the laws of contempt, which was to protect the administration of justice.

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## MPs assert right to information

Continued from page 1

suggested that it would open up an informed dialogue between the Government and the citizen.

Throughout the day the battle raged in an amicable and civilized manner between those who supported the Government's inherent and inborn disapproval of disclosing almost anything and those under Mr Hodge's banner.

Mr Charles Irving, one of the freedom fighters on the Conservative benches, must have sent a tremor through what he described as the stagnant and musty corridors of power by suggesting that Cabinet and ministerial committee meetings should be open to public view.

Then there was Sir Hugh Fraser, Conservative MP for Bedford and Stone, who described himself as an authoritarian who on this occasion siding with the agitators. Sir Hugh pointed out that at the moment no one knew what

the law was over official secrets and it was time that some sort of order was put into the system.

On the Opposition benches there was no shortage of supporters for the Bill. Mr Samuel Silkin, Labour's former Attorney General, sided with the angels.

Mr Silkin pointed out that the principle of one man, one vote could not be properly implemented unless that man was properly and fully informed.

From the Liberal benches, Mr Clement Freud, while agreeing that civil servants were charming people of the highest integrity, gave a warning that if there was one class of people to whom this Bill was anathema, it was the Civil Service.

One of the more powerful voices on the other side of the argument came from Sir Angus Maude, who has only recently visited the darker recesses of the Whitehall corridors and who, in the view of many, was somewhat inappropriately named as the Cabinet minister

in charge of government information.

He said that if Cabinet and Cabinet committee meetings and documents were not secure, the decision-making process was pushed further and further back from Cabinet to Cabinet committee to two or three people.



# Paisley men rally on a windswept mountain

## Cautious and modest advance in cause of open government

The Freedom of Information Bill was not intended to reveal or disclose juicy scandals, but *Mr. Frank Hooley* (Sheffield, Healey, Lab) said when he introduced the Bill to the House. He said it would open up an intelligent, informed dialogue between Government and the citizen.

Many bodies had expressed full support for the Bill including the National Union of Journalists, the Press Council, the Criminal Justice Administration Association, and a significant

national health service. There was a clause which would allow it to be extended to local government or other public bodies by order.

The Information provided categories of information from the public which would be exempt from disclosure. Broadly these were defence, although not matters relating to the EEC; security and intelligence; currency reserves; and information relating to criminal justice; commercial confidentiality and personal privacy.

The cause of open government had made some progress over the past 15 years. They now had

Part Two of the Bill dealt with the problem of Section 2 of the Official Secrets Act, 1911. It was to be assumed to be the principle of access to official information and give citizens the right of access to information held in Government files. It was a very absurdity which had been there for 70 years and was still on the

The central thrust of this Bill was to get an intelligent flow of information between government and the governed on the basis of

## Marconi bids for £500m Navy contract to develop a new heavy torpedo

The British obsession captured interestingly with the experience of the United States in their Free-

dom of Information Act. This gave people a positive right to obtain certain information, a principle which sadly, the Government's attitude, whichever party was in power, provided the safeguards necessary to protect the state and the rights of the individual and the press. It was always a pity that anybody could succeed in getting hold of a document of that kind it was considered to be a triumph and was published or not from the respect of whether the matter was of the slightest use or interest to the reader. There were journalists whose sole reason for

there should be open Cabinet meetings, ministerial committee meetings, and a breath of fresh air blowing through the stale and stagnant corridors of power. Mr. Samuel Sukin (Southwark, Dulwich, Lab.) said the ordinary citizen had an interest in knowing what the Government was doing from central and local government.

The answer lay not in legislation of this kind but in ministers and officials doing their jobs sensibly and the House doing its job sensibly. The Government had the answer, but tried to keep it

ment, which affected his life closely and would continue to be affected, was that the decision was the discussions before it was decided that a large newspaper or series of newspapers should be used to carry the political organization rather than another organization.

He was waiting with great decision-making meetings and bodies and processes the less he knew it was that the decision would be taken in Cabinet or Cabinet committee or anywhere where they could be discovered and explained.

Mr. C. J. Johnson Smith (East Grinstead, C) said that government could not be conducted in

Somebody said that when the members of the media from the press, who were the winners of the Harold Gribble Memorial Award, Mr Rees-Mogg as to what took place in the councils and discussions which led to the decision to enable Murdoch to take over *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*.

Sometimes he felt that when the members of the media from the press, who were the winners of the Harold Gribble Memorial Award, Mr Rees-Mogg as to what took place in the councils and discussions which led to the decision to enable Murdoch to take over *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*.

most reticent in relation to their own affairs, perhaps there were some who ought to remember the saying about people living in glass-houses.

Some of these provisions were long way. Perhaps they would encourage others outside the confines of this Bill to do likewise.

A public corporation, a private tennis club or a government, could not be run on the basis that all its affairs should be private. The Bill would fundamentally effect the nature of the relationship between the executive, the legislature, and the judiciary.

Mr Clement Freud (Isle of Ely, L.)

**Sir Angus Maude** (Stratford-on-Avon) said the Bill was a "disgrace to the public's right to know. He always became suspicious when people talked about rights. He was not in favour of any of the concepts of rights. When people talked about a right of access to information, he was always suspicious. He was always suspicious of anything that came from it. It was not right, like the Bill, the repeal of Section 2 of the Access to Information Act without bringing in the most important changes to replace it would be the greatest disservice to the security of the country they could imagine. He was not in favour of anything to whom this Bill was anathema. It was the Civil Service. At the moment, the country had information.

He did not even expect that he would be right to know everything which went on. There were certain cases which it was virtually impossible to disclose without unduly increasing the cost of defence and government.

A variety of motives prompted people to demand legislation of this kind. Some of them were very expensive and sometimes not reliable as information by right. Sir Hugh Fraser (Stafford and Stone, C.) said the level of political and political debate on public affairs was below that of the United States of America. One of the reasons was that there was this atmosphere of secrecy.

a genuine desire to make government itself impossible which, if carried to its logical conclusion, legislation of this kind could, in many cases it sprang from the lobby system which was entirely wrong and was a question of leak and squeak from ministers. All this would be largely obviated with something like this Bill.

Mr. Barney Hayhoe, Minister of State, Civil Service Department, said that the documents were safeguarded as a good one.

The Home Secretary hoped to be able to make a statement to Parliament about data protection during the current Parliamentary session.

There were over 500,000 self-storage files in the Public Record Office. There were a thousand

willfulness of ministers to give evidence and provide information to the appropriate committees before the House.

Clause 1 of the Bill will give the Ombudsman and the courts would be able to order and undermine parliamentary constitutional practices. These proposals would punish Ministers and individuals, presumably at the expense of the public.

Thousands of files in the Government machine at the moment. They were being created at an annual rate of one million for the last year in small departments, and perhaps a million a year in large departments.

The current practice was that over 90 per cent of these files were destroyed. The idea was

home or overseas, to approach the Ombudsman direct.

Another aspect, the convenience of having the ministers and officials and exchanges between ministers and ministers and officials raised questions.

It was wrong to seek to get the Ombudsman to give a list of officials to visit.

Some measure of confidentiality was the essence and heart of good

Was it right to remove the 30-year protection of confidence? It might be extremely interesting to see some of the internal documents of other administrations in recent years, but the contention within government.

The closure motion was rejected by 172 votes to 111—Government majority, 61, and the debate was adjourned.

House adjourned, 3.7 pm.



## WEST EUROPE

## Death threat to victim of Basque kidnap

From Harry Debellus  
Madrid, Feb 6

An engineer was due to die by midnight tonight according to his Basque separatist kidnappers, unless the Spanish Government agreed to demolish a nuclear power plant under construction near Bilbao.

The terrorist organization ETA had threatened to kill Señor José María Ryan, who was kidnapped eight days ago while on his way from the construction site at Lemóniz to his home near Bilbao.

The ETA has violently opposed the nuclear power plant ever since construction began in 1978. It has bombed, burnt and shot at numerous installations and offices of Iberduero, the company which is building the plant, killing a number of workers and policemen. The latest person to die was one of the ETA's own members killed when a bomb which he placed at a transformer station near Pamplona apparently exploded prematurely.

About 10,000 people marched through Bilbao last night in a demonstration which called on the ETA to free Señor Ryan.

A few hours later, in what appeared to be a defiant answer from the ETA, a high-tension tower owned by Iberduero was wrecked by explosives near San Sebastián, cutting off power for 30 miles.

The separatist attacks at Lemóniz are largely responsible for the fact that Spain's nuclear power programme is behind schedule. The first of two reactors at Lemóniz, with a potential of 3,000 megawatts each, should have been in operation by early last year. The second was to have been on stream this year or next.

The unrelenting onslaught is costly not only in terms of the lives lost and property destroyed. The delays are also pushing up Spain's oil imports bill. Señor Ignacio Bayon, the Minister of Industry and Energy, pointed out to a parliamentary committee here last December that a one-year delay in putting a 1,000 megawatt plant into service means the import of 1,400,000 tons of petroleum which would not otherwise have been needed.

Señor Ryan was the twentieth person to be abducted by the ETA since 1970. Police were also searching for another kidnapped man who may be in the hands of the ETA.

He is Señor Luis Suñer, a wealthy industrialist who was hounded out of his office near Valencia 24 days ago by a group of hooded gunmen.

## East German footballers reported held

Bonn, Feb. 6.—Three members of East Germany's national football team were arrested at an East Berlin airport and taken away by security officials, the West German newspaper Die Welt reported.

The three Dynamo Dresden stars, Gerhard Weber, aged 24, Matthias Müller, aged 26, and Peter Kotte, aged 26, had been chosen for the national team playing in Argentina this week, and East German superstars were puzzled why they did not make the trip, the conservative newspaper reported.

The three turned up at East Berlin's Schönefeld airport, were taken behind a partition, and driven away separately by state security officials, the newspaper said, citing unofficial East German sources.

The Dynamo team would not comment on the arrests, and a spokesman for the national sports association would say only that the affair was related "to a pending case", Die Welt said.—AP.

## Gourmet dies in restaurant

Paris, Feb. 6.—Henri Clos-Jouve, president of the Guild of French Gastronomic Journalists, died while ordering lunch in a Paris restaurant today. He was 80.

A food writer for 50 years, he was considered to be one of the leading French gourmets.—Agence France-Press.

## Señor Suárez assails right-wing 'opportunists'

From Richard Wigg  
Palma, Majorca, Feb 6

Señor Adolfo Suárez, who suddenly resigned as Prime Minister eight days ago, plunging Spain into a government crisis, achieved a welcome of plebiscitary proportions from some 2,000 rank and file delegates when the UCD opened its party conference here today.

The outgoing Prime Minister, who insisted that this was his last conference as party president, obtained almost equally prolonged applause later when he urged the delegates to back Señor Leopoldo Calvo-Sotelo, as present Deputy Prime Minister in charge of economic affairs, as the man to succeed him.

King Juan Carlos, and with him most of Spain, is awaiting the outcome of this conference to decide which political leader to nominate to go before the Cortes and seek a parliamentary majority.

The government crisis and the wending battle between Señor Suárez and the UCD "barons", who today looked threatened, explain the intense interest in this conference,



Police dragging away protesters who were trying to stop building going ahead on the controversial Brokdorf nuclear power station near Hamburg. Construction has been resumed after a four-year suspension.

## Franco-German summit united in distrust of Britain and America

From Ian Murray  
Paris, Feb 6

France and West Germany have closed ranks and put up a firm front against two dangers which their leaders believe threaten Europe: President Reagan's America and Mrs Thatcher's Britain.

The threat from America envisaged during the last two days of talks between Herr Helmut Schmidt and President Giscard d'Estaing during the thirty-seventh summit between the two countries was that President Reagan's tough line could deprive Europe of a meaningful independent voice in dealing with the Soviet Union.

Predictably, the threat envisaged from Britain was that Mrs Thatcher would not heed the spirit of the Treaty of Rome and would thwart attempts to adopt a common fisheries policy, to fix an increase in agricultural prices, and agree to a phasing out of compensatory payments.

The perfect harmony which seems to shine through the final statement agreed by the two summit delegations would indicate that Britain can expect a united front from France and West Germany when it comes to the Brussels negotiations over the European budget, and any agricultural policy.

Finding a rapid solution to the difficulties which have hindered the creation of a common fisheries policy occupied much of the discussions on Europe. Both France and West Ger-

many are being forced to prop up their fishing industries and the two leaders agreed that a "solution" must be found "rapidly".

As a result, it was agreed that Herr Schmidt would seek an early meeting with Mrs Thatcher to try to impress this on her.

For Herr Schmidt the most important part of the statement was that dealing with defence. Both countries reaffirmed their loyalty to Nato, but at the same time agreed to work together to set up a European disarmament conference.

The statement outlined the three requirements the two countries believed had to be met for the "stabilization" of East-West relations: "stabilization" rather than "détente" is what President Giscard has said is now the objective of policies towards the Soviet block.

The requirements were: a security balance; moderation in political behaviour; and equality of responsibility towards the "great powers" of the world.

The desired security balance would be achieved by refusing either to accept a position of weakness or to seek military superiority.

The call for moderation was clearly aimed at both President Reagan and the Kremlin. It should be moderation according to the conditions in the Helsinki Agreement. This meant that Poland would have to be allowed to solve its own problems peacefully and without external interference.

The chairman of Die Welt's works council, representing the journalistic and non-journalistic staff, confirmed the contents of The Times report in a radio interview today.

He added that he believed many of the journalists were prepared to strike in support of their cause.

He also predicted that many journalists would leave the paper if its political lines were changed again.

Herr Springer complained that the "unreliable" Times report failed to mention that he was crying out for the Die Welt financial problems. He said: "I confidently hope that I... will be more successful in the future than the present owner of The Times". He would not let these efforts be impaired by polemics or speculative attempts at interference.

Herr Springer appeared to be under the impression that the term right-wing referred mainly to his passionate pro-Israel and pro-Jewish views and accused The Times of having a basically anti-Israel attitude.

Underlining the importance of the UCD staying united, Señor Suárez said: "If we leave this conference divided we shall only constitute the small fragments of an historic failure."

Most of his speech was devoted to the theme of party unity and his contention that the existence of a political force occupying the middle ground was vital for Spain's new democracy. "They attack us because the UCD contributes the element of equilibrium in Spanish society," he said.

The party had been put in power by seven million voters not as a conservative party, attempting to resist change, but to realize the social changes required, in a spirit of common sense and in a reformist way. It must decide in Palma the basic political strategy and programme right up to the next general election, he said.

Señor Suárez had arrived here from Madrid last night with a team of no less than six conference aides, looking obviously as if still in power, although he had just held his last Cabinet meeting.

The so-called "critical sector" of the party, chiefly the Christian Democrats (the best org-

"This moderation is everywhere—both inside and outside Europe—incompatible with the recourse to force, with the politics of false compromise, and with attempts to ensure unilateral advantages."

The "great problems" of the world were those of poverty, hunger and the quest for economic stability through a more moderate evolution of oil prices. The statement ended with the somewhat unctuous suggestion that overcoming the difficulties of the Community, improving Europe's political cohesion and assuring the stability of the economy were the conditions needed to ensure that Europe conformed to its historic role.

The apparent unity on most of the main points discussed was important to President Giscard d'Estaing for domestic political reasons. His close relationship with the West German Chancellor has been one of the basic factors of his policy.

Among the subjects treated in meetings held parallel to the summit was Japanese trade. Both countries agreed that the Japanese market should be opened to more European imports, while Japanese manufacturers would have to show more restraint in selling to Europe. This would be taken up with Tokyo.

A cultural statement was agreed, which looks ahead to the establishment of a research institute in France, dealing with contemporary German, and mutual improvements in the teaching of history and language.

## Terrorists kill policemen in gun battle

Padua, Feb. 6.—Right-wing terrorists killed two carabinieri yesterday evening in a gun battle on a council bank on the outskirts of Padua, police reported today. A wounded man was arrested last night at a flat in Padua.

Police identified the man as Valerio Fioravanti, aged 22, known to the police as a member of a neo-fascist extremist group calling itself Third Position. They said Signor Fioravanti was wanted for questioning in connection with a series of right-wing terrorist crimes, including the bomb explosion at Bologna station which killed 86 people.

Wrong target? Terrorists in an apparent mix-up of targets, bombed the Nationalist Chinese Embassy to the Vatican today, causing heavy damage but no injuries, police reported (AP wire from Rome).

A self-styled Maoist-Leninist group claimed responsibility for the attack in a telephone call to an Italian news agency, saying the bomb was intended to dramatize its demand for the release of Jiang Qing, the convicted widow of Chairman Mao.

allied of all UCD factions) and the liberals said after the delegates' reception, that they were still ready to do battle with what is known as the "official sector", led by Señor Suárez, because he still controls the powerful party secretariat.

This consists of many former officials of the Franco regime, like Señor Suárez himself.

The critics presented their own candidate, a Christian Democrat, for the conference chairmanship, but Señor José Pérez Llorca, the Foreign Minister and the candidate of the "official sector", obtained two-thirds of the delegates' votes.

Their candidate obtained about 100 votes less than the 700 conference delegates who signed the pre-conference manifesto attacking Señor Suárez's presidential style of running the party, and demanded that elections to the national executive should be on the basis of proportional representation.

The critics today also insisted that Señor Suárez should not present himself on any of the lists of candidates for the party executive. Who should replace him as party president will be decided on Sunday, before the conference ends.

## OVERSEAS

## General's reservations on UN plan for Namibia

From Nicholas Ashford  
Windhoek, Feb 6

Major-General Charles Lloyd, the officer commanding the South African Defence Force and the South-West Africa Territory Force (ethnic units) in Namibia, said today he still had a number of military reservations about the United Nations settlement plan for the territory in particular the proposal to establish a 60-mile wide demilitarized zone along Namibia's northern border.

General Lloyd rejected claims made by United Nations negotiators and Western observers at last month's Geneva conference on Namibia that only minor technical matters concerning the implementation of the military aspects of the plan still had to be resolved.

Addressing a press conference for foreign correspondents in the Namibian capital, the general also claimed that South Africa could have won the bush war against the South-West Africa People's Organization (Swapo) by now if it had not been for the self-restraint shown by the Defence Force when striking at Swapo bases in southern Angola.

"We know of some beautiful targets over there," he said, "but we do not go for them because we do not want to hurt civilians, cause unnecessary damage to the local infrastructure." He said the war was against Swapo and not against Angola, although he admitted that innocent civilians did sometimes get hurt as a result of the Defence Force's cross-border operations.

General Lloyd's reservations about military aspects of the United Nations plan are further evidence that the South African Government does not intend to go ahead with a settlement along the lines laid down in Security Council resolution 435 for the foreseeable future. South Africa, which is trying to buy time for the internally based Democratic Turnhalle Alliance to establish itself as a viable alternative to Swapo, is also seeking guarantees of the United Nations impartiality before agreeing to go ahead with the settlement plan.

The main military objection to the plan concerns the demilitarized zone which would stretch for 30 miles on either side of the territory's entire 700-mile frontier. General Lloyd said Swapo would make use of the withdrawal of South African troops from this zone to infiltrate the area and to intimidate the local population.

As more than 60 per cent of the territory's one million inhabitants live within the proposed zone this would have a major impact on the outcome of the election.

"I do not believe that resolution 435 and the establishment of a demilitarized zone can ensure the holding of free and fair elections," General Lloyd said. He added that if his forces, which are based in number on the 20,000 men, were unable to prevent Swapo infiltration then 5,000 United Nations troops deployed in the demilitarized zone "have not a hope in hell of doing so."

Despite his reservations about the United Nations, General Lloyd said there had to be a political rather than a military solution in Namibia.

Party moves: In the wake of the collapse of the Geneva talks on a United Nations settlement in Namibia, leaders of the territory's internal political parties are considering steps to consolidate the internal regime which was set up after an election sponsored by South Africa in 1979 (Eric Marsden writes from Johannesburg).

Just today after two days of talks in Cape Town between Namibian internal leaders and South African ministers, including Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister, no statement was issued after the meeting, but Mr Dirk Mudge, the chairman of the National Council of Ministers said later that his Democratic Turnhalle Alliance had proposed the setting up of a South-West African Government of national unity.

## Russians say icon dealer is defending smuggling

From Michael Binyon  
Moscow, Feb 6

A Soviet newspaper which has charged a London icon dealer with smuggling stolen icons to Britain for sale by London galleries has accused a British icon dealer of using The Times to reassure potential clients worried by Soviet anger over the affair.

Mr Vladimir Simonov, the London correspondent of the weekly Literaturnaya Gazeta, suggested that a letter published in The Times on January 19 from Mr C. M. Martin describing how icon smuggling worked, was an attempt to justify what Mr Simonov called the dirty trade and allay the worries of diplomats who were acting as couriers in smuggling the icons across the Soviet border.

He described how he had tried, on reading Mr Martin's eight-point letter, to get in touch with him. He went to the gallery in Kensington Church Street, the address given in the letter, only to be told that Mr Martin had moved long ago and nobody knew where he now lived—"something quite unimaginable according to English tradition".

Instead, he said, he was received by a man who offered to put him in touch with other galleries dealing in icons. But such galleries, he said, were "guarded more strongly than banks"; and he described an attempt to visit another gallery where an icon stolen

## Gunmen storm flat in Beirut and abduct Jordan envoy to force return of defecting Syrian pilots

From Robert Fisk  
Beirut, Feb 6

Two apparently pro-Syrian militia groups claimed this afternoon to have been responsible for kidnapping Mr Hisham Muhaissen, the Jordanian chargé d'affaires in Lebanon.

In what looked suspiciously like an extension of the political dispute between Syria and Jordan, a telephone caller dialled the broadcasting offices of the Christian "Voice of Lebanon" radio station to say that Mr Muhaissen would be executed if two Syrian air force pilots—who had defected to Amman—were not returned to the Damascus authorities.

Mr Muhaissen's elegant apartment block in western Beirut—the Muslim side of the Lebanese capital—was stormed by at least 20 gunmen this morning. They machine-gunned one of the diplomat's bodyguards to death in the front yard of the building, accidentally killing a Lebanese motorist at the same time, then burst through the glass doors of the foyer, peppering the walls with bullets.

Mr Muhaissen was in his second-floor flat when the gunmen shot off the door lock of his apartment and sprayed the living room with gunfire. He and his maid were in their bedrooms and both were immediately seized and taken down

to the street where they were driven away in one of four cars used by the kidnappers.

A Syrian army roadblock is positioned scarcely half a mile from Mr Muhaissen's home, but long before the first telephone caller had claimed responsibility for the kidnapping, the Jordanian government was hinting strongly that the Syrian government had a hand in the affair.

"A certain side that is accustomed to move in darkness" was their claimed rather picturesquely, responsible for the kidnapping.

The first claimant to responsibility announced to the "Voice of Lebanon" that he represented an organization calling itself "The Eagles of the Revolution" and demanded the return of the two defecting pilots.

The caller said the pilots were members of the Muslim Brotherhood, the underground extremist movement which has carried on a ruthless war against President Hafez al-Assad's regime in Damascus for the past two years.

The radio station is owned by the Christian Phalange Party which is in a coalition with the Lebanese police, however, added some credence to the suspicion of Syrian complicity by disclosing that they had found pamphlets at Mr Muhaissen's apartment signed

by two more groups, this time calling themselves the "Left Arab National Organization" and "Vanguards of Revolutionary Justice". The documents denounced Jordan as ally of "imperialism" and Zionism, and of lying to Syria.

Nevertheless, it has become rather too common a practice in Lebanon to blame Syrians for every unsolved murder or kidnapping. It is scarcely anyone here who doubts the long arm of the Syrian secret service operates with as much subtlety as the Lebanese.

A Palestinian group and to break up the Pales Liberation Organization's recent relations with King Hus of Jordan, for instance, to have had reason to kidnap Muhaissen.

Palestinians were believed to be responsible for the kidnapping and murder of the United States Ambassador in Beirut during the civil war four or five years ago although murder of numerous Lebanese journalists—including the country's most accomplished publisher, Mr Selim El-Loz—will have been the work of Syrians.

## US farmers lobby for end of grain embargo

From Patrick Brogan  
Washington, Feb 6

President Reagan met a group of spokesmen from the farming industry this morning, to hear their pleas that the grain embargo against the Soviet Union should be lifted, and that federal help for farmers should continue at present levels.

He has already seen a group of mayors of the country's main cities and many others will pass through his office in the next 10 days, attempting to persuade him to lift his budget cuts on someone else.

In his broadcast to the nation last night, Mr Reagan promised deep cuts in the budget but did not say where they would fall. He said that the current year would end on September 30 with a budget deficit of about \$80,000m (\$33,236m). He said that the budget was out of control and that he would do something about it.

He will present his economic policy or at least a first instalment of it, to Congress on February 18. He has been reported to want to cut \$50,000m from next year's budget.

The speech contained few hints that the process of controlling inflation would be painful and no details of how it could be done.

He said that government "has reached, indeed surpassed, the limit of our people's tolerance or ability to bear an increase in the tax burden". He will therefore propose across-the-board cuts in taxes of 10 per cent a year for each of the next three years.

## Hopeful start to talks about Belize

By David Spanier  
Diplomatic Correspondent

Talks on the future of Belize between British and Guatemalan officials in New York continued yesterday after a reasonably hopeful start.

The discussions are seen as a "make or break" effort to reach a settlement over this long-standing colonial dispute, before Britain convenes a constitutional conference, expected to start in London next month. Independence for Belize would then follow, according to the United Nations resolution which Britain has endorsed.

## India Supreme Court order will set thousands free

From Trevor Fishlock  
Delhi, Feb 6

More than 12 years ago Mr Birendra Rout was arrested on charges of robbery and murder. He is still in prison awaiting trial, according to a report just made to the Supreme Court of India.

He is in jail in the northern state of Bihar, whose government was ordered by the Supreme Court recently to provide details of people in custody.

Expressing concern over "the disturbing state of affairs" in Bihar, the court has ordered the state government and law authorities to dispose of the cases of thousands of people who have been awaiting trial for more than two years.

The court has been told of four young men who have been in a Bihar prison for eight years without trial. It has heard that there are 19,000 cases of people waiting for hearings to begin a year after they were first committed for trial.

It has asked the Bihar authorities to explain why a number of prisoners have been waiting

for trial for more than years, and why more people have not been released on bail. The administration of justice in several parts of India is the courts are clogged and disarray. There are about 100,000 people awaiting trial, many of them with little prospect of coming to court in near future.

Nowhere is the position worse than in Bihar. The government and judicial officials say there are enough courts.

The Supreme Court's order to Bihar to dispose of cases quickly is meant to apply to other parts of India. The order should set free thousands of people.

Many of them will have served longer than the minimum sentence for the crimes they are alleged to have committed. But given the state of the judicial system, it is by no means certain those eligible for release will be freed as quickly as the Supreme Court would like.

## Threat to kill the crew of hijacked airliner

Bogotá, Feb 6.—Three shabbily dressed men armed with submachine-guns hijacked a Colombian airliner today and threatened to kill the crew if soldiers surrounding the aircraft did not allow it to take off, police sources in Bogotá said.

The airliner was hijacked moments after taking off from the north-east Colombian city of Bucaramanga and was forced to Cucuta, 75 miles away along the Venezuelan border, Señor Adolfo Martínez, Governor of the state of Norte de Santander, said in a broadcast interview.

To Cucuta, 60 passengers, believed to be all on board the Avianca airlines Boeing 727, were allowed to get off, a radio reporter said from Cucuta airport. Then 10 Army vehicles and about 300 soldiers surrounded the aircraft.

The hijackers threatened to kill the five crew members one by one if the soldiers did not

allow the airliner to leave, usually well-informed police sources said at the Bogotá police headquarters in Bogotá. The hijackers demanded the Cucuta district Governor be summoned to the airport that they could put demands to him, an airport spokesman said.

Later the Communicational Ministry issued an order to suspend news coverage of the hijacking. Radio reports on the incident were immediately cut off. The order, given due to the seriousness of the situation and to avoid complications, an Interior Ministry source said.

Colombia does not use electronic surveillance equipment in searching passengers, though it does search luggage at airports. Body searches are often casual and sometimes skipped.—AP and UPI.



## OVERSEAS

## Many demonstrators arrested in violent Tehran street clashes

Violence returned to the streets of Tehran today as students and Muslim fundamentalists fought pitched battles in the city. At least 45 people were taken to hospital, some with bullet wounds.

Many demonstrators were arrested in the clashes, in some cases the fundamentalists themselves. They were taken to a police station and then to a military court.

The violence began after supporters of two leftist groups tried to force a government order to close the city's main demonstration square, a move they said was a violation of the constitution.

A police officer was killed and many others injured in the fighting. The government has ordered a curfew and a state of emergency.

The match was organized by the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, a paramilitary organization created by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The group is known for its extreme views and has been responsible for several acts of violence against the government and the West.

The clash was a rare moment of open conflict between the two groups, which have often been at odds.

The government has vowed to maintain order and has called for a return to peaceful protest.

The clash was a warning to the government that it cannot ignore the demands of the Islamic Republic's supporters.

The clash was a warning to the government that it cannot ignore the demands of the Islamic Republic's supporters.

## Compassion outweighed by military tradition

From Michael Leapman  
New York, Feb 6

The five marine officers who convicted Private Robert Garwood yesterday of collaborating with the enemy in Vietnam, were faced with a painful dilemma during their two days of deliberations. They had to balance their devotion to the service and its traditions against the compassion they must have felt for the accused.

The facts of the case were scarcely in dispute. During his 14 years with the communists in Vietnam, Private Garwood had collaborated with them, learning their language, carrying weapons for them and helping them administer American prisoners of war.

Whether it was fair to call him, as one of the prisoners did, a "white Vietnamese" was debatable. Yet he certainly aroused the rage of prisoners, as they testified at the court martial, by seeming to identify with their captors rather than with his fellow countrymen.

On the other hand, there was a man of limited mental capacity who had been subject to just how severe the pressure was never exactly established—since his capture in 1965, when he was 19 years old. The defence argued that this pressure, together with his difficult childhood, meant that he could not be held accountable for his conduct.

Private Garwood's misfortunes began when he was a baby. Doctors testified for the defence that he had been dropped on his head and suffered a slight but recordable brain damage. His mother left home when he was four and he had stormy relations with his father. He ran away from home and joined the marines partly so that he could be released from a home for wayward boys.

All that left him with mental scars which made him prone to persuasion by his captors in Vietnam. The defence said that he was unable to make rational judgments about his actions.

In deciding to convict him, the five marine officers seem to have relied heavily on the military code of conduct, which says in part: "I will never forget that I am an American fighting man, responsible for my actions."

In practice, that has been modified in the case of other returned prisoners of war. Modern techniques of coercion have, since the Korean War, been recognized as so powerful that unpatriotic statements made under pressure are no longer made a subject of prosecution, so long as the servicemen involved "bounce back" to loyalty once the pressure is lifted.

Private Garwood, who stayed in Vietnam until 1979, was judged not to have purged himself in this way. The marine authorities felt that if what they saw as so gross a breach of the code was not punished, it would retain no meaning at all. The jury obviously agreed.

The case has provoked surprisingly little comment here. The Vietnam War seems a long time ago; a painful experience for Americans, who do not seem anxious to revive its memory. Further hearings will be held at which Private Garwood's sentence will be decided by the jury members who convicted him.



Peruvian army officers showing weapons they captured from Ecuadorean troops last week.

## Washington to expand key base in Australia

From Douglas Aiton  
Melbourne, Feb 6

The United States base at Pine Gap, near Alice Springs in central Australia, will be expanded to increase America's ability to strike the Soviet Union with nuclear missiles.

The Defence Department revealed that Australia had agreed to the expansion after a request from Washington in August last year.

Under the agreement, the United States will install more advanced electronics and communications equipment and increase the number of American experts at the base.

The decision came after America changed its nuclear strategy to give priority to attacks on Soviet nuclear missile sites in a first strike rather than on cities.

A Defence Department spokesman would provide few details of the build-up at Pine Gap. A short statement issued by the department yesterday referred only to "additional construction at Pine Gap."

The statement said a 75ft by 200ft extension would be made to one of the buildings at the base. The statement said that the new construction would not affect the function of the base, which has never been revealed to the Australian public.

Defence experts say the base could play a vital role in pinpointing Soviet targets on land and sea. The base also can give precise navigational aid and orders to nuclear armed American submarines around the world.

Successive Australian governments have acknowledged that Pine Gap and another communication base at Exmouth on the North West Cape in Western Australia would be certain nuclear targets in a war.

In March Mr James Killen, the Minister of Defence, told Parliament that Australia risked attack in a nuclear war whether or not it allowed American facilities in the country.

Under the revised United States nuclear policy, initiated by President Carter, all American communications bases will be expected to play a bigger role in giving early warning of Soviet nuclear attacks and in monitoring Soviet military movements by relaying signals from satellites to the Pentagon.

Pine Gap is one of only two ground bases which receive the early warning signals.

When details of the United States request to upgrade the base were published in August last year, Defence Department officials refused to comment, saying it was official policy neither to confirm nor deny reports about the base.

## Japan stages anti-Soviet protest over islands

From Stephen Lee  
Tokyo, Feb 6

Japan today celebrated for the first time the day of the "Return of the Territories." The day marks the anniversary of the Soviet occupation of the islands occupied by the Soviet Union since August 1945 despite repeated protests.

Mr Zenko Suzuki, the Prime Minister, is to emphasize in an address that Tokyo is in the second anniversary of a Russian-Japanese friendship and navigation treaty signed 126 years ago, which marked the border between the two countries.

The treaty established that the four islands—Korofu, Kunshiri, Hoonan and Shikotan—were to be returned to Japan. The islands are located north of Hokkaido and are of a range of smaller islands covering an area of 1,990 square miles—were Japanese.

The issue of the northern territories has been a significant stumbling block in all Soviet-Japanese peace negotiations since the end of the Second World War.

In Moscow, Tass news agency today deplored the Japanese ceremonies.

Tass rejected Tokyo's claims on the islands and criticized the ceremonies as a "provocative venture and an unfriendly gesture towards the Soviet Union."—Agence France-Press.

## Asean rejects Janoi offer on Kampuchea

From David Watts  
Singapore, Feb 6

The Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean) has rejected an unacceptable Janoi proposal for a regional conference on Kampuchea.

The five member countries, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and the Philippines, today made known their position through a statement by Mr Rosolom, the Foreign Minister of the Philippines.

The statement said that the Janoi proposal ignored the root cause of the Kampuchean problem. The statement said that the Janoi proposal ignored the root cause of the Kampuchean problem.

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## Central Africa to hold March election

Bangui, Feb 6. More than 97 per cent of Central Africans approved a new constitution allowing a multi-party system in a referendum last Sunday, according to official results published last night.

President David Dacko announced that the first presidential elections to be held since the overthrow of Emperor Bokassa will be on March 1.

There are eight political parties in the republic, but it is not yet known how many candidates will stand.

In choosing March 1 as polling day President Dacko has ignored a provision of the electoral law which states that 35 days must elapse between votes. The referendum was on February 1.—Reuters.

## French settlement programme criticized by Guiana socialists

## Laos refugees find new life in South America

From Danielle de Meyer  
Agence France-Press

Yenne, French Guiana, Feb 6. Forty men, women and children arrived in this French overseas territory one night in September, 1977, and are taken immediately into the Amazonian forest. The group is the vanguard of Hmong refugees from Laos.

Today the Hmong settlers, who fled the central highlands of Laos claiming that they were harassed by the communist authorities in Vietnam, are about 1,000, living in villages of Cacao (50 miles from here), and Jahuvey, near the frontier with Surinam. The Hmong, often incorrectly called Miao, are one of the many tribes of Laos.

Settling the Hmong refugees being carried out by the French Government and a Catholic aid movement, despite opposition from local leaders.

M. Paul Dufoud, the French Minister for Overseas Territories, confirmed recently that settling Hmong in the two villages would continue.

The project was described as "very positive" by Father René Charrier, a French missionary who worked in Laos for 30 years, and accompanied the Hmong here. But he added: "We have to take account of certain human feelings."

Father Charrier helped to found the village of Cacao, which is reached after driving along a 38-mile dirt road through the equatorial rain forest.

Cacao is a vast clearing in the middle of luxuriant vegetation, with its wooden houses, stilted, two churches, its colourful market and hundreds of laughing children.

One thousand five hundred acres have been hacked out of the forest by hand as no bulldozer could be used.

The village itself is surrounded by rice paddy fields and maize and manioc crops, grown with the help of buffaloes from Trinidad which can stand the humidity. They grow also sweet potatoes and soy beans and rear pigs and poultry for their own consumption.

The village produces one ton of fresh vegetables every week and these are sold at neighbouring markets.

The village even has contracts with Paris firms to supply tropical products to France, like 1,000lb of passion fruit a week. This is an unprecedented contract for French Guiana.

The Hmong settlers each received a subsidy of 40 francs (about £3.50) a day over three years and the total investment in Cacao works out at about 17 million francs.

It is estimated that it costs 20,000 francs to clear two-and-a-half acres before being able to plant the first seed. But for the past 12 months the village has been completely self-supporting. Its eight tractors belong to the farm cooperative and three families out of 100 have their own car.

"We have found peace and safety here," the Hmong say. But they have come to know all the problems that plague uprooted communities. The main problem is the feeling of isolation.

The village is cut off from the rest of the country by the thick forest and contacts with local people are minimal. The average age of the village is 15 years. But as it is the Hmong tradition to forbid marriages within the same clan, the village will have to welcome more Hmong settlers so their children can marry.

The Hmong are finding it difficult to integrate here despite great efforts to teach them French. So far only 40 families have become naturalized.

Father Charrier pointed out that "at the beginning it is important for them to retain their cultural identity, customs and language. The second generation, the children of the people here, will start making contacts in the outside world."

The Hmong settlement project has brought protests from local people and their elected leaders.

Senator Raymond Tarcet, vice president of Guiana Socialist Party, which is the main opposition movement, talks about "genocide by substitution organized by the French Government."

M. Elie Castor, chairman of the locally elected 16-member council, said: "Guiana has received its share of Hmong." He sees in their settlement here the "risk of a demographic and political upset."

But Dr Claude Ro-Chuck, the first Guiana mayor to welcome a Hmong community, looks on their settlement as an act of human kindness. He sees Guiana as under-developed and under-populated. "We need all the help we can get to develop Guiana, for by ourselves we shall never succeed."

## Nicaragua accuses US of economic aggression

From Stephen Downer  
Managua, Feb 6

Dr Arturo Cruz, a member of the five-man ruling Nicaraguan junta, has accused the Reagan Administration of using "economic aggression" in an attempt to influence his country's destiny but he says Managua will "not beg" Washington to desist.

If any foreign government tried to crush the revolution, Nicaragua would make "any sacrifice" to protect itself, while it investigates how the money is being used. State Department officials have accused Nicaragua of involvement in El Salvador.

"By alleging we are involved in El Salvador, which we are not, the United States may decide to call in the outstanding balance due," Dr Cruz said. "They may close other markets for us by using their influence internationally."

"The awesome power they have is obvious. But the revolutionary Government is not willing to lose its self respect and the right to self-determination. We are not going to beg."

He said Nicaragua "wants to respect human rights, be non-aligned and to keep a pluralistic system... if our revolution scares the United States, or anyone else and, because of that, they decided to crush us, we are ready to make any sacrifice required."

Dr Cruz said that if the United States withdrew its support, "they would be making a serious error... they would be forcing us to look for cooperation elsewhere... the revolutionary leadership may be obliged to do what it does not want to do, which is to become more radical."

Educated in America, Dr Cruz worked for ten years with the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington.

America has stopped payments and loans to Nicaragua while it investigates how the money is being used. State Department officials have accused Nicaragua of involvement in El Salvador.

"By alleging we are involved in El Salvador, which we are not, the United States may decide to call in the outstanding balance due," Dr Cruz said. "They may close other markets for us by using their influence internationally."

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## Dissidents warned in China

Peking, Feb. 6.—Chinese Communist Party members have received a stern warning from a provincial radio station, which emphasized that they were forbidden to support the activities of dissidents.

A transcript of the Nanchang radio comment showed that both right and left-wingers opposed the party central committee line in the central province of Jiangxi.

The broadcast reminded party members that the spreading of ideas contrary to the official party line was "absolutely forbidden" in public and in the media, although any "divergent ideas" that they might have could be expressed within the framework of Communist Party bodies.

The text also warned party members that it was "absolutely forbidden" to refuse to implement policy "on the pretext of holding differing opinions."

Party members were told, without any further detail, that they must not "support the activities of dissidents" or take part in "factional activities while camouflaging themselves behind the party organization."

Nanchang radio recently attacked the presence of supporters of Jiang Qing, Mao Tse-tung's widow.

—Agence France-Press.

# HIGH INTEREST RATE.

## Bland Delhi draft upsets non-aligned nations

From Our Own Correspondent  
Delhi, Feb 6

Afghanistan and Kampuchea clearly be the dominant forces at the foreign ministers' conference of non-aligned nations in Delhi next week.

A movement will be under way as it tries to retain its peace of unity while warring to compromise on two issues over which its members are strongly divided.

There is disappointment and anger among many countries as the way in which the nations of Afghanistan and Kampuchea are mentioned in the draft declaration circulated by India.

For these countries the declaration is far too bland and does not express what they feel about the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan and the Vietnamese presence in Kampuchea.

The declaration makes no direct reference to Kampuchea, and calls upon South-East Asian countries to settle their differences without the involvement of outside powers.

On Afghanistan, the declaration expresses strong opposition to the use of force in that country, and to interference in its internal affairs, but does not mention the Soviet Union or call for the withdrawal of its troops.

Some of the non-aligned countries want the Russians to be not only mentioned but condemned.

The Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean) is upset that the declaration does not face the Kampuchean question squarely and wants the conference to demand the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops.

The Vietnamese, on the other hand, have expressed their satisfaction with the declaration as it stands and have given a warning that any mention of Kampuchea would lead to confrontation between members of the non-aligned movement and would be dangerous to its unity.

There will have to be some tough talking, especially behind the scenes. The movement, in its twentieth anniversary conference, will be at pains to avoid serious public disagreement.

As well as seeking some acceptable middle-ground formula on the two issues, the movement will also want to demonstrate that it remains as valid as when its principles were set out by its late leaders, Jawaharlal Nehru, President Nasser and President Tito at its founding in Belgrade in 1961.

Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, will attend the conference and will try to get talks started between Afghanistan and Pakistan.

**business news**

**Chinese puzzle—will these men bid a billion to run Hong Kong?**

**COMMENT**

**Resist verbal mugging over your pension**

**BELLS SCOTCH WHISKY**







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An old house, built in 1880, and is one of the finest in Wales. It is situated in a beautiful park, and is surrounded by a 100-acre estate. The hotel is a Grade II listed building, and is a fine example of Victorian architecture. It has 12 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, and a large dining room. The hotel is run by a family, and is known for its excellent food and service. It is a popular destination for families and couples alike.

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Close to the beach, this hotel is a first class hotel, built in 1880, and is one of the finest in Wales. It is situated in a beautiful park, and is surrounded by a 100-acre estate. The hotel is a Grade II listed building, and is a fine example of Victorian architecture. It has 12 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, and a large dining room. The hotel is run by a family, and is known for its excellent food and service. It is a popular destination for families and couples alike.

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thorpe, this is the place for you. It is a first class hotel, built in 1880, and is one of the finest in Wales. It is situated in a beautiful park, and is surrounded by a 100-acre estate. The hotel is a Grade II listed building, and is a fine example of Victorian architecture. It has 12 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, and a large dining room. The hotel is run by a family, and is known for its excellent food and service. It is a popular destination for families and couples alike.

Send your advertisement and answers to Wexhampton Town Hall, c/o The Times, 12 Coley Street, London WC9 9PT, to reach us not later than Friday, 13 February.

The winner will not be sent to Wexhampton but will instead be offered a free weekend for two at The Old Black Lion, an old Welsh coaching inn, in Hay-on-Wye, a second-hand bookshop town in beautiful countryside.

## Wexhampton welcomes you!

Wexhampton is probably the most unattractive town in the whole of the United Kingdom. Situated slightly north-east of nowhere in particular, the town was built at a time when British architecture was experiencing what is now generally accepted as being its lowest ebb. Wexhampton is a poor example of architecture in that period.

The town is sited nearly, but not quite, at the top of a hill. On clear days, you can see as far as the next hill (half a mile). The last recorded clear day was 7th February 1957.

Economically the town is dependent on the gas works which for the convenience of the workers has been sited in the middle of the town.

The local dialect is so strong as to make it unintelligible not only to visitors, but also 80% of the inhabitants. Not surprisingly, the locals are grumpy, mean, colourless and often violent.

The town council has just converted the disused abattoir into a sort of town.

You have just been appointed Publicity Officer for the town and your first task is to write an advertisement, in not more than 100 words, for the national press which will bring tourists to the town of Wexhampton.

Now answer the following simple questions. The answers are to be found in the advertisements in this feature.

- 1 Where do wild daffodils grow on the Moors?
- 2 Which other spring flower will be found in Filey?
- 3 Burton-on-Trent?

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A first class hotel, built in 1880, and is one of the finest in Wales. It is situated in a beautiful park, and is surrounded by a 100-acre estate. The hotel is a Grade II listed building, and is a fine example of Victorian architecture. It has 12 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, and a large dining room. The hotel is run by a family, and is known for its excellent food and service. It is a popular destination for families and couples alike.

### WEST HIGHLAND COAST

A first class hotel, built in 1880, and is one of the finest in Wales. It is situated in a beautiful park, and is surrounded by a 100-acre estate. The hotel is a Grade II listed building, and is a fine example of Victorian architecture. It has 12 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, and a large dining room. The hotel is run by a family, and is known for its excellent food and service. It is a popular destination for families and couples alike.

### LOCH LOMOND

A first class hotel, built in 1880, and is one of the finest in Wales. It is situated in a beautiful park, and is surrounded by a 100-acre estate. The hotel is a Grade II listed building, and is a fine example of Victorian architecture. It has 12 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, and a large dining room. The hotel is run by a family, and is known for its excellent food and service. It is a popular destination for families and couples alike.

### CRANICHES CASTLE

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### TRAVEL HIRE

HOLIDAY HIRE CRUISE, on the Loch Lomond, built in 1880, and is one of the finest in Wales. It is situated in a beautiful park, and is surrounded by a 100-acre estate. The hotel is a Grade II listed building, and is a fine example of Victorian architecture. It has 12 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, and a large dining room. The hotel is run by a family, and is known for its excellent food and service. It is a popular destination for families and couples alike.

### Boat Hire

HOLIDAY HIRE CRUISE, on the Loch Lomond, built in 1880, and is one of the finest in Wales. It is situated in a beautiful park, and is surrounded by a 100-acre estate. The hotel is a Grade II listed building, and is a fine example of Victorian architecture. It has 12 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, and a large dining room. The hotel is run by a family, and is known for its excellent food and service. It is a popular destination for families and couples alike.

### Children's Holidays

EXCITING CHILDREN'S HOLIDAYS, on the Loch Lomond, built in 1880, and is one of the finest in Wales. It is situated in a beautiful park, and is surrounded by a 100-acre estate. The hotel is a Grade II listed building, and is a fine example of Victorian architecture. It has 12 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, and a large dining room. The hotel is run by a family, and is known for its excellent food and service. It is a popular destination for families and couples alike.

## WEXHAMPTON

## CIVILIZATION

Wexhampton welcomes you!

Wexhampton is probably the most unattractive town in the whole of the United Kingdom. Situated slightly north-east of nowhere in particular, the town was built at a time when British architecture was experiencing what is now generally accepted as being its lowest ebb. Wexhampton is a poor example of architecture in that period.

The town is sited nearly, but not quite, at the top of a hill. On clear days, you can see as far as the next hill (half a mile). The last recorded clear day was 7th February 1957.

Economically the town is dependent on the gas works which for the convenience of the workers has been sited in the middle of the town.

The local dialect is so strong as to make it unintelligible not only to visitors, but also 80% of the inhabitants. Not surprisingly, the locals are grumpy, mean, colourless and often violent.

The town council has just converted the disused abattoir into a sort of town.

You have just been appointed Publicity Officer for the town and your first task is to write an advertisement, in not more than 100 words, for the national press which will bring tourists to the town of Wexhampton.

Now answer the following simple questions. The answers are to be found in the advertisements in this feature.

- 1 Where do wild daffodils grow on the Moors?
- 2 Which other spring flower will be found in Filey?
- 3 Burton-on-Trent?

Send your advertisement and answers to Wexhampton Town Hall, c/o The Times, 12 Coley Street, London WC9 9PT, to reach us not later than Friday, 13 February.

The winner will not be sent to Wexhampton but will instead be offered a free weekend for two at The Old Black Lion, an old Welsh coaching inn, in Hay-on-Wye, a second-hand bookshop town in beautiful countryside.

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## West Country

### The Victoria Hotel

Maintaining a tradition of excellence in the unspoilt beauty of Sidmouth

AA\*\*\* RAC. Situated near Sidmouth, Devon, this hotel is a first class hotel, built in 1880, and is one of the finest in Wales. It is situated in a beautiful park, and is surrounded by a 100-acre estate. The hotel is a Grade II listed building, and is a fine example of Victorian architecture. It has 12 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, and a large dining room. The hotel is run by a family, and is known for its excellent food and service. It is a popular destination for families and couples alike.

Enjoy all the amenities that you would expect of one of England's finest hotels - including, but not limited to, private garden, swimming pool, tennis courts, and a large bar.

For more information, please contact the hotel directly. Tel: 03955 2451.

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# Saturday Review

## The Reverend Maturin and Mr Melmoth

by Richard Holmes



The Reverend Charles Robert Maturin

When Oscar Wilde was released from Reading Gaol in 1897, you will recall that he fled to France under a rather remarkable pseudonym—Monsieur Sebastian Melmoth. His travel bags were initiated S.M., and his letters and melodious telegrams were signed "Melmoth". From the Hotel d'Alsace, Paris, he wrote to a friend explaining: "You asked me about 'Melmoth'... to prevent the postman having fits I sometimes have my letters inscribed with the name of a curious novel by my great-uncle, Maturin: a novel that was part of the romantic revival of the early century, and though imperfect, a pioneer: it is still read in France and Germany; Bentley republished it (in England) some years ago. I laugh at it, but it thrilled Europe..."

Exactly why poor Oscar should have hit upon this lugubrious title remains to be seen. For the moment it is sufficient to remember that he chose it in prison, and that he carried it with him into exile and—quite soon—into death.

Wilde's grand-uncle (on his mother's side) was the Reverend Charles Robert Maturin, an eccentric Irish curate of St Peter's, Dublin. In 1820, at the age of forty, the Reverend Maturin startled his parishioners by publishing the extraordinary piece of Gothic fiction known as *Melmoth the Wanderer: A Tale*. Despite its modest subtitle, it ran to four substantial volumes, and was constructed in a most intricate, not to say devious manner, from a whole series of interlocking stories, each one nesting inside the other on the principle of a set of Chinese boxes or Russian dolls.

It was rumoured to be replete with all the terrors of the genre—comfortably outdoing the haunted castles of Horace Walpole, the fiendish monasteries of Monk Lewis, and the vapouring heroines of Mary Shelley. Naturally, it was much mocked by the English reviewers of the day who regarded Gothic Horror as irretrievably down-market. Croker growled in the *Quarterly*: "Mr Maturin has contrived, by a curious infelicity, to unite in this work all the worst peculiarities of the worst modern novels. Compared with it, Lady Morgan [author of *The Wild Irish Girl*] is almost intelligible—*The Monk*, decent—*The Vampire*, amiable—and *Frankenstein*, natural."

No doubt because of this, the novel leapt into a second edition, and was adapted for the stage, and was shortly translated into French (twice, in 1822), and later German and Spanish. Its European popularity has never waned since, and a Russian translation in a heavy black cover like a Bible, appeared only four years ago.

Much more surprising, however, it became a *cause célèbre* among the leading Romantic and Symbolist writers in France. Baudelaire glorified it in *L'Élixir de longue vie*, and even wrote a satirical sequence, *Melmoth Reconcilié* (1835). Admiring references and epigraphs can be found in the works of Hugo, Baudelaire, Gautier, Eugène Sue, Villiers de l'Isle-Adam, and Lautréamont, whose *Chants de Maldoror* pinches several morbid scenes.

Baudelaire, writing *On My Contemporaries* (1865), observed majestically: "Beethoven began to stir up those worlds of melancholy and apprehensibility like thunderclouds on the inner horizon of man. Maturin in the novel, Byron in poetry, Poe in the analytical romance—all admirably expressed the blasphemous element in human passion. They cast splendid, dazzling shafts of light on the hidden Lucifer figure who is enthroned deep in every human heart. I wish to suggest by this that modern art is essentially demonic in tendency."

This places the Reverend Maturin in unexpectedly influential company. Nor was Baudelaire referring to conventional, cardboard "demons". Certainly, the hero of *Melmoth* is an closer inspection no ordinary figure. In fact, apart from a certain contract made with the powers of darkness, he seems to have been a rather studious and distinguished Anglo-Irish gentleman of the 17th century. "There was nothing remarkable in his figure," said one in the novel who had met him on his travels in Madrid (and lived to tell the tale). His demeanour was quiet, his dress sober, he did not carry a sword. Only there was something about his expression—"the eyes particularly"—which could not fail to appal.

"Accustomed to look on and converse with all things revolving to nature and to man—for ever exploring the madhouse, the jail, or the Inquisition, the den of famine, the dungeon of crime, or the death-bed of despair—his eyes had acquired a light and language of their own—a light that none could gaze on, and a language that few dare understand."

Who was Mr Melmoth, that he frequented such grim institutions and dark secret places of the heart? He was a man, whatever else he might be, on a lifelong—more than lifelong—pilgrimage. What he sought was a single victim.

Someone whose life was so terrible, so tormented, so trapped, that as an act of rational choice—an act of madness, or delirium, was not valid—they would agree to change places with him. In this bargain they would purchase their freedom in exchange for "an unutterable condition", which Melmoth proposed.

It is typical of Maturin that in the course of this long novel we never learn precisely what this "unutterable condition" is. But it becomes clear that Melmoth has sold his soul in exchange for certain kinds of physical and intellectual gifts, and an extension of his natural life for a term of 150 years. The one way he can escape from final payment on this transaction, is to transfer the deal to another human being before his time is up. It is a kind of diabolic mortgage. Hence Melmoth's ghastly search among the suffering and oppressed.

The legend of the Satanic pact, is, of course, one of the most venerable in European folklore and literature. The figures of Cain, Dr Faustus, Abasco, the Wandering Jew, all express it; and Marlowe, Goethe, Byron, Coleridge, and Thomas Mann have based masterpieces on it. It also had wide popular currency in English thriller writing of the 19th century—William Godwin's *St Leon* (1789), Robert Louis Stevenson's *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*, and M. R. James's *Casting the Runes* are notable variations.

But Maturin's originality lay in transferring attention from the mythology of the horrendous pact, to the human psychology of those tempted to it. What kind of despair could endanger them? The Tempter, Melmoth, is human. Apart from its outer frame-story, the novel is very little concerned with supernatural stage business. It is fundamentally, a study in oppression—particularly the oppression of institutions and customs—explored in various convenient Gothic forms.

There are six main tales, though only a flow-chart could show how they follow, drop through, open out, and close back round each other. Like some mad Emperor's mechanical puzzle. The first concerns Stanton, an Englishman lured into a lunatic asylum; the second, Moncada, a young Spaniard trapped in a monastery and then an Inquisition prison; the third, Immaele, an "Indian" maiden marooned on a palm-tree island; the fourth, Isadora, a Spanish debutante doomed to an arranged marriage; the fifth, the Walbergs, a loving German Protestant family torn apart by sudden poverty and unemployment; and the sixth, Elinor and John Sandall, two Shropshire lovers ruined by a greedy mother. Each one also contains several sub-tales and anecdotes. But every one of them concerns some sort of imprisonment of the body or the spirit. Even when the men play chess in Maturin, they break off leaving the Queen en prise.

The pains which most of these intended victims undergo are mental rather than physical, though they can reach forms of torment where the borderline is blurred in hallucination passage. Here, in a celebrated scene, the young monk Moncada suffers a nightmare on the eve of his interrogation by the Spanish Inquisition:

"The next moment I was chained to my chair again—the fires were lit, the bells rang out, the lanterns were swung—my feet were scorched to a cinder—my muscles cracked, my blood and marrow hissed, my flesh consumed like-shrinking leather—the bones of my legs hung two black withering and nerveless stalks in the ascending blaze—my head was crowned with fire—my head was a ball of molten metal—my eyes flashed and melted in their sockets—I opened my mouth, it was closed—I closed it, the fire was within—and still the bells rung on, and the crowd shouted, and the king and queen, and all the nobility and we burned and burned!"

Strikingly horrible as this passage is (and pointing, in its rhythms, especially, towards Edgar Allan Poe), it remains within the hyperbolic conventions of eighteenth-century Gothicism, only a breath away from ludicrous laughter. Indeed it is in this suppressed laughter, on the reader's part, that such of its monstrous power probably comes. Not for nothing Maturin was dubbed "the Fuseli of novels."

Who was the obscure Irish curate who created Melmoth and his labyrinth of victims? How did he become such an epicure of terror and oppression? Charles Robert Maturin was no clerical jargonist or insouciant priest; and he lived quietly enough through the upheavals of the French Revolution and the great bloody battles of Irish nationalism in Dublin, under Wolfe Tone and Emmet. Yet these things left their inner mark, and later in life he claimed that a Huguenot ancestor had spent 26 years in the Bastille.

Born in 1780, the youngest son of a prosperous Irish civil servant, Maturin graduated at Trinity College, Dublin, and took Holy Orders in the Protestant Church. His first curacy was at the remote country town of Loughrea, in Galway, and here he came in touch with the profound superstition and misery of the local people. By the age of 24, however, he had been appointed as one of the curates of St Peter's, living in the fashionable quarter of St Stephen's Green in Dublin, with a stipend of some £80 per annum. He was a youthful, elegant figure—his portrait shows something of a clerical dandy, with open shirt and graceful fingers—and he quickly married his childhood sweetheart, Henrietta Kingsbury, who had musical talents and useful connections with the Irish Episcopacy.

But Maturin was disappointed in his hopes of early preferment. His seniors found him too colourful and unstable: a love of dancing, amateur theatricals, and mischievous mimicry, alternated with strange fits of melancholy and distraction. He also revealed an inconvenient literary bent—publishing in rapid succession a series of garish romances: *The Fatal Revenge* in 1807, *The Wild Irish Boy* in 1808, and *The Millionaire Chief* in 1812. This was not the curriculum vitae of a future Bishop.

Maturin's Preface to the latter work is revealing of his situation as he saw it at the age of 32: "If I possess any talent, it is that of darkening the gloomy, and deepening the sad; of painting life in the extremes, and representing the struggles of passion when the soul trembles on the verge of the unlawful and the unallowed. In the following pages I have tried to apply these to the scenes of actual life; and I have chosen my own country for the scene, because I believe it is the only country on earth where, from the strange existing opposition of religion, politics, and manners, the extremes

of refinement and barbarism are united, and the most wild and incredible situations of romantic story are hourly passing before modern eyes. In my first work I attempted to explore the ground forbidden to man; the sources of visionary terror; the formless and the void; in my present I have tried the equally obscure recesses of the human heart. If I fail in both, I shall—write again."

Maturin's sense of being trapped in Ireland, his clerical career frustrated and literary recognition remote, was now compounded by financial crises. His father was sacked from his senior position in the Dublin Post Office on an unexplained charge of malfeasance; and a distant relative, possibly a rascally cousin, inveigled Maturin into going security on a business that promptly went bankrupt. Flung into debt, and with a household now including nine dependents and his difficult old father, Maturin desperately took on private pupils, and wrote away more furiously than ever. The autobiographical basis of one of Melmoth's tales—the Walbergs family—was already taking shape.

Then in 1816, Maturin's fortunes dramatically changed. He had decided to try his luck with a stage melodrama, and the resulting script—*Bertram, or the Castle of St Aldobrand*—reached the notice of Walter Scott, who passed it on with amused recommendation to the Dublin Theatre Committee. A single stage-direction catches the flavour of the piece: "The Rocks—The Sea—A Storm—The Convent illuminated in the background—A group of Monks on the Rocks with Torches—A Vessel in Distress."

To Maturin's amazement, the play was immediately successful. Production was mounted in May, 1816, with

Kean in the star role. Byron sent him 50 guineas; John Murray bought the book copyright for £350; and box office receipts earned him more than £500. Maturin visited London (the only time in his life he ever left Ireland), was applauded at Drury Lane, and did a breathless round of the literary drawing rooms. He was ecstatic! For a brief, brief moment he was famous, and what is more, free.

Back in Dublin he lived in a dreamlike whirl. He was the hero of his own household. He bought Turkish carpets, ornate mahogany tables, silk wall papers, elaborate lusters, and had his parlour expensively paneled with painted boiseries depicting the scenes from his novels. He became a habitué of Lady Morgan's Dublin salon, and indulged his passion for dancing "with young persons" even joining a racy Gavotte Society that met three mornings a week. (There are some nasty dancing metaphors in *Melmoth*.)

"His character, habits and opinions seemed to undergo a total alteration," a friend later wrote. "He returned to Ireland, gave up his tuition, indulged in the intoxications of society, and became a man of fashion, living upon the 'fame of his genius.' He was 36."

At this time he was said to sit composing amid his own house parties, with a red patch pasted on his forehead to indicate that he was in the throes of creation. Subsequently that patch must have come to seem like the mark of Cain.

Maturin's time of triumph was bitterly short—less than a year. His subsequent melodramas—*Manuel* (1817) and *Fredolfo* (1819)—flopped hopelessly at Drury Lane and Covent Garden. Coleridge wrote a destructive review of his work, which he unkindly republished in the *Biographia Literaria*. A scheme of Byron's, to make over the royalties from his poems, fell through because of Murray's

objections ("It could be in no respect different to you—whether I paid it to a whore or a hospital—or assisted a man of talent in distress," complained Milford)—and the three intended beneficiaries, Maturin, Godwin, and ironically Coleridge, received nothing.

Maturin's old debts absorbed all his remaining royalties. He was soon writing to Murray: "There is not a shilling I have made by *Bertram* that has not been expended to pay the debts of a scoundrel for whom I had the misfortune to go security, so here I am with scarce a pound in my pocket, smothering at congratulations on having made a fortune." One catches the bitter lit of his voice.

By 1817, the complaints had become more pathetic. "Let me beg you to write to me. I cannot describe to you the effect of an English letter on my spirits; it is like the wind to an Aeolian harp. I cannot produce a note without it. Give me advice, abuse, news, anything or nothing (if it were possible that you could write nothing), but write!"

For Maturin the iron door of circumstance had changed shut once more, and this time forever. "There is no room for Irishmen in England," he groaned.

"It was in this dark mood that he began to scrawl down the first wild tales that turned into the maze of Melmoth's wanderings across Europe in search of salvation. Much of his adolescent reading from the Arabian Nights and Glanville's *History of Witchcraft*, to Percy and Ossian and La Religieuse of Diderot, swam back into his mind; so too did personal memories of the Dublin street riots, the English suppressions, and the deathbed visions of his country parishioners. (Many footnotes in *Melmoth* attest to these). But the master-idea, said Maturin, came to him during the course of a late Sunday evening's sermon at St Peter's in 1817.

He was speaking gloomily of the infinite mercy of God, and

looking down at his little flock amid the flickering candle-light, he suddenly exclaimed: "At this moment is there one of us present, however we may have departed from the Lord, disobeyed his will, and disregarded his word—is there one of us who would, at this moment, accept all that man could bestow, or earth afford, to resign the hope of his salvation? No, there is not one—not such a fool on earth, were the enemy of mankind to traverse it with the offer!"

A silence fell in the church, the wind howled, and as the French say an angel—or something worse—walked overhead. Maturin testifies that in that silence, he reflected on his own lot, and somewhere a pair of balding eyes first opened their lurid lights, and Melmoth was born—or reborn—and began walking on the wild cliffs of county Wicklow. The passage can still be read in his published *Sermons* (1819).

While he wrote *Melmoth*, Maturin seems to have become a ghost of his former self. He had gone bald. The expensive furnishings of his house in York Street were progressively flung off, and even the stone flagged corridors left uncarpeted.

He no longer composed in the cheerful parlour, but took long solitary afternoon walks and returned after dark to shut himself up in his study to write. As he worked, he seemed to withdraw into some kind of bleak inner world, his quill pen moving with sinister speed as if under dictation. A Dublin friend recalled of this time:—

"I have remained with him repeatedly, looking over some of his loose manuscripts, till three in the morning, while he was composing his wild romance of *Melmoth*. Brandy and water supplied to him the excitement that opium yields to others; but it had no intoxicating effect on him; his action was, if possible, more strange, and indeed terrible to witness. His mind travelling in the dark regions of romance, seemed altogether to have deserted his body, and left behind a mere physical organism; his long pale face acquired the appearance of a cast taken from the face of a dead body; and his large prominent eyes took a glassy look; so that when, at the witching hour, he suddenly, without speaking raised himself, and extended a thin and bony hand, to grasp the silver branch with which he lighted me down stairs, I have often started, and gazed on him as a spectral illusion of his own creation."

No doubt this description has gained a certain blarney in the retelling. Yet its correspondences oddly with the sensation of blind, headlong speed in Maturin's narrative, which makes it so readable, and prompted the *New Monthly Review* critic of 1821 to observe: "Maturin will ransack the forgotten records of crime, or the dusty museums of natural history, to discover a new horror. He is a passionate connoisseur in agony. His taste for strong emotion evidently hurries him on almost without the concurrence of the will." A hundred years later, André Breton recognized in it the *écriture automatique* of Surrealism.

Maturin's publisher—now Constable of Edinburgh—reacted more frostily. Why did the chaotic instalments of manuscript have no pagination? Where were the logical links between the tales? What was the title to be? How could a reader ever reach the end without chapter summaries? And anyway, why was it so late?

In retrospect, it is clear that the asymmetrical, labyrinthine structure of the tales is one of the main sources of their weird power. The further the reader enters in, the more he is overpowered by a nightmare sense of suffocation and apprehension. Yet all the time the narrative moves at relentless pace. It is like a prisoner rushing to escape through a Piranesi-style series of bifurcating, subterranean leads, which only appear to lead him deeper and deeper underground. At each twist or intersection, sooner or later, we glimpse the figure of Melmoth, lurking from the shadows, grimly proposing his bargain. The final effort may even strike the modern reader with an uncanny sense of premonition—here already is something like the dark, closed universe of Kafka's *Castle* or Solzhenitsyn's *Gulag Archipelago*.

In the most avowedly romantic of the tales, the story of the innocent Indian maiden Immaele, or her beautiful desert island, Melmoth himself is her demon lover. He tries deviously to corrupt her mind with distorted accounts of mainland civilization, which he shows her—in a scene surely predestined for the stage—through a powerful telescope. Immaele, the figure who comes closest to redeeming Melmoth by falling in love with him, she is a potential Ariadne. He is the first human being she has ever seen ("the daughter of a palm tree"), and she unravels his sophistries with innocent guile. Through her we realize the limitations of Melmoth's satanically purchased powers, and the paradoxical truth that it is he who is more deeply imprisoned than all his intended victims. Many of their dialogues, full of Rousseauesque naïvetés, have a quaint poetic charm.

"The tempter was departing gloomily, when he saw tea start from the bright eyes of Immaele, and caught a wild and dark omen from the innocent grief. And you were Immaele?" "Yes," said the beautiful being, "I always was when I see the sun set clouds; and will you, the son of my heart, set in darkness too? and will you not again? will you not? and will the graceful confidence of innocence, she pressed her delicious lips to his hand as she spoke. 'Will you not?'"

In the end Melmoth simply cannot bring himself to seduce her, and he bitterly abandons her to the lonely island of peacocks and blossoms, as shadow passes over the moon. But the idyll is brief, and the labyrinth here doubles back with particular cruelty. Unde the name of Isadora, Immaele turns up again in Madrid, rescued, educated and refined. She is swiftly carried away seduced and married again her parents will, and ends her days in yet another dungeon with a dead child in her arm. There is no escape for anyone.

Yet Melmoth is never successful in his temptations. One of his victims finally goes away and by the end of the novel it is Melmoth himself, returned after 150 years to the remote ancestral house on the coast of Wicklow, who is at last called to account. A touch of the Irish charm does not guard him, though. His hair was as white as snow, mouth had fallen in, the muscles of his face were rigid and withered—he was the image of hoary decrepitude. He started himself the impression which appearance visibly made on intruders. "You see what I feel," he exclaimed, "the he then is come, I am summoned and I must obey the summons—my master has other work for me! When a man looks his way, you see, when a comet pursues its burning path towards the sun—look up, perhaps you may think of a spirit condemned to guide a blazing and erratic orb!"

Maturin leaves open the unsettling possibility, that Melmoth might continue to rove the world, "seeking for whom might devour", in centuries come—"should the few terms of his existence be renewed."

Maturin eventually received £500 from Constable for overdue manuscript, but terms of his own contract were never renewed. A mere five years after the publication of his masterpiece, he died in gloom and genteel poverty aged forty-four. Fame never reached him properly. When Walter Scott, the faithful of his literary spongers, journeyed to Dublin order to collect materials for a biography, he found that most of Maturin's private papers had been destroyed by his family.

Maturin had written that was "one who has little known little of life but labours distress and difficulty, and has his own private life a gloom of his own pages for the shade of obscurity and a fortune under which his existence has been wasted." Melmoth he added: "Let the who smile at me, ask the selves whether they have been indebted most to imagination reality for all they have enjoyed—if indeed they have enjoyed anything."

Despite its Gothicism, and of the deepest inspiration *Melmoth the Wanderer* is a fondly and timeless Irish draws on images of age, subjection and persecution, lights them with a faint gleam, and extends them to touches upon the spiritual nature of captivity—social, gnostic, political—in a way has often been more accessible to the European than English mind. Perhaps this was one of the reasons Wilde, with a kind of pious gallantry, adopted grand-uncle's strange career when he went into sad exile France.

How oddly delighted Reverend Maturin would have been, if he had lived even to sign a name to the legend that Charles Baudelaire that other spirit priest proposed to translate *Melmoth* unabridged into French and how moved he might have been to read the following sage from his "Poème du châtiment" (1835):

"Let us remember Melmoth that admirable emblem of suffering lies in disproportion between marvellous faculties, acquired instantly by a satanic pact, the everyday world in which as a creature of God, he condemned to live. And of those whom he wishes to seduce consent to purchase, those same conditions, his rible privilege. In effect, man who does not accept conditions of life, sells own soul."

Yet one stranger speculation remains. If Melmoth's contract was renewed—where is he now?

Footnote: *Melmoth the Wanderer* is available in Penguin and the World's Classics series. The fullest modern study of Maturin is by Claude F. F. F. Editions, Universitaires, Paris, 1974.

© Richard Holmes















## Collecting

## Success is putting on the right show

The Royal Academy summer exhibition is a sell-out. This is a remarkable achievement, given the generally sticky market for contemporary works of art in Britain, and the vast number of paintings, drawings and sculptures which the great rooms and small rooms of Burlington House can together accommodate.

The secret of its success, in my view, lies in the works of art selected for show. While generally scoffed at by avant-garde art critics, the selectors tend to stick to the figurative end of the figurative-abstract spectrum over which contemporary art ranges. There tend to be a few purely abstract works, a great many in the middle ground where figurative elements are still recognisable but nature has been adapted to suit some structural or colouristic theory favoured by the artist, and there are also a good number of works in the traditional figurative mode.

This mix clearly appeals to the general public, in that they flock to the exhibition and actually buy. The same can hardly be said of most shows put on by London's commercial galleries specialising in contemporary art. They rely in the main on museum purchases, the Arts Council and a few foreign collectors.

Since the British public demonstrates so clearly, once a year where its tastes lie, it seems to me extraordinary that more commercial galleries—there are a few—cannot spruce up into existence to supply such work. One reason is perhaps the comparative cheapness of the works themselves; there is not a big enough turn to be made in relation to marketing effort.

However this may be, the Royal Academy itself has gone some way towards bridging the gap. The Royal Academy Business Art Galleries are rather difficult to find. They are up on the third floor next to the

Diploma Galleries. But you can get there in the lift or, if you choose to take the stairs, you can marvel at the achievements of the great nineteenth-century academicians whose works have been taken out of store and now line the stairwell—there are some very notable works. The Business Art Galleries were opened in 1978 and are one of the many money-making ventures in which the academy has indulged in recent years in a desperate attempt to get its finances on a stable footing. The business is 52 per cent owned by the RA itself; the other half is owned by Curwen Prints, Ltd, who run it.

The name was selected to underline the galleries' ambition to sell cheap but distinguished artists' prints, paintings and drawings to the business community to furnish their offices. They have succeeded in securing several substantial contracts of this kind, but the general public wander in and buy as well. At present about 100 people a day visit the galleries in search of good art with which to decorate their homes.

Everyone's tastes vary but I found myself homing in on some of the really excellent contemporary draughtsmen and painters—curiously, the latter seem to predominate. Good draughtsmanship is something that always moves me.

Top of my list I would put the pencil drawings of Jo Barry, dense little drawings of corners of houses, gardens and fields. She has done something which becomes ever more difficult in the figurative tradition: invented a quite original style and approach. She takes a corner of flowers, grasses, lilies or moss and in a combination of hard and soft pencil for outline and shadow, she appears to render every detail of their dense interweaving. The result is extremely attractive, especially to lovers of the countryside.

Considering the amount of careful work involved the standard price of £95 for these works is modest.

Another draughtswoman of exceptional skill is Anne Le Bas. The galleries have a wide selection of her etchings, all issued in limited editions, and ranging in price from £22 plus VAT, upwards—but not very far upwards.

She has an amazing control of the etching needle. At a casual glance you would identify her work with the best of the pre-impressionist generation of etchers specialising in rural scenes—Miller or early Pissarro for example.

One reason is that she has spent a lot of time in France and treats the same views and farmyard scenes. It is amazing to reflect how little she has changed. But she has a remarkable range and can run without difficulty outside their subject matter. The Church of the Exiles, Mont Geneve is a majestic mountainous landscape, the composition beautifully balanced, the page which would have excited the admiration of the best of classical landscapers. Narrowing the focus, Piss is an engaging pig-sty interior with a medley of carefully delineated porkers snuffling around, curled asleep and one mounted on his hind legs to gaze out of the sty to a farmyard glimpsed beyond.

Washerwomen by Lake Garda takes us farther south and again, is a notable technical achievement. With a subtle use of aquatint she brings out the vivid contrast of bright southern sunlight and shadow. She can even do the English woodland. The Hollow Sycamore, gnarled and inviting childish exploration, is well worth £25 plus VAT.

Black and white, and detailed draughtsmanship, is all very well, you may be murmuring, but I want a splash of colour something to brighten the room. There are plenty of coloured

lithographs to choose from in all styles, shapes and sizes. But if I had a bit of extra money in my pocket, or was prepared to save up and take one noble picture in place of four fairly good ones, I would make for Eric Luke.

Again, he has managed to invent something a bit new. From a distance you assume he is working in oils. Go up close and you discover he is working with wax, partly with wax crayons and partly in liquid wax with which he mixes his own pigment.

In subject matter his work is a cross between still life and interior scenes. Characteristically, a room with a bright Turkish carpet is furnished with a few chairs or tables on which human clothes are propped in attitudes adopted by humans themselves but with no bodies inside them; there are usually several hats, some in natural colours, some in bright pinks and purples—but mostly tributes.

The result is startling, highly decorative—and slightly mysterious. Turkey Red, a good example, would cost you £420.

It is unfair, perhaps, to pick out only three artists from the several hundred on the

galleries' books, but one can't talk about them all in passing. I should however mention that a lithograph of Windsor Castle by the president of the Royal Academy himself, Sir Hugh Casson, is available at £58.65 with a frame and £40.25 without.

Credit should be given where credit is due. The new life that has been breathed into the Royal Academy in recent years, the constantly changing exhibitions—some marvellous some dim, but of challenging variety—the new links established with the art trade and the Business Art Galleries themselves stem largely from his initiative and drive—fuelled by a determination to make the Academy solvent.

It is a pleasure to reflect, as one slips through the arches of the facade, looming before one, that this great institution has survived without handouts from the government and is so far untouched by the deadening hand of bureaucracy. With all its grandeur and distinction, it is run by an independent bunch of artists, rather eccentric, but with a long way to go.

Geraldine Norman



Church of the Exiles, Mont Geneve, an etching by Anne Le Bas

## Good Food Guide

## The bedside manner

If all England were like the tract of sedate brick, trees, and grass that stretches from Kew to Morden and embraces the Deer Park and Twickenham on the way, the world, one imagines, would be safe for Lincolne Liberalism and the Sunday Express.

Another characteristic of Richmond restaurants—as compared with their bristly and brusque counterparts in central London—is what in another professional milieu would be called a bedside manner. Customers of Restaurant Madeleine for instance, clearly also of its owner Madeleine Rouillard as a stray from *Angels* who stops only just short of holding their wrists and feeling their pulses. The flowers, the polished floors, and the swift cushions confirm this impression.

But the tiny room is more relaxing than this sounds, and Jacques Grebot brings to the cooking a technique and a solicitude that are not achieved by playing doctors and nurses.

Mr Grebot shares the current French interest in rhubarb, and a frequent visitor expresses high pleasure in the chicken with rhubarb sauce that made an unusual but exquisite *plat du jour* one day, and also in the rhubarb pancake with *sauc-de-vie des fleurs d'orange*. An accurately baked egg with an aromatic crab sauce (£1.80), fish pâté with brandy and mayonnaise, seafood pancake with Pernod and tarragon, ris de veau (£4.10) and a convincing ragout of lamb to a Marsala recipe have also been singled out, and if the thought of rhubarb brings you out in spots, the place Cointreau is smooth, creamy and alcoholic. Table wines are £2.50, and Lirio or Corbières on the wine list clearly express an affection for the warm south. Partners 23—a shop front little restaurant that has succeeded early by the quality

of attention given to both food and customers. Tim McEntire (who cooks) and Andrew Thomason were both only 23 when they opened this cosy brown room with eight tables after meeting at catering college. They wisely went separate ways for further training before starting their partnership, and the standard set would have surprised the Guide's inspector if they had been twice the stated age.

Not an eyelid blinked when we arrived 40 minutes late after an untroubled tour of south London and then proceeded to order as many different dishes in each course of the set dinner as there were diners in the party. Moreover, the menu read well with imaginative touches, food was served at the right temperature, and every dish looked well too, quite apart from promisingly precise tastes.

"Broad bean and hazelnut soup, served with croissants, was a winner, and the stuffed pastry cases and choux buns for the other first courses were expertly made. Double lamb cutlets in omelette with fresh rosemary and a good Cumberland sauce were perhaps the best main course for the tomato and cream sauce for beef was too bland—but the sweets were quite as good as the hors d'oeuvre, notably the light but rich chocolate and orange mousse, and the cranberry and pear biscuit crumble, its sweet-tart flavours delicately balanced.

Dolomere's College Claret is £4; Vendimia Especial '66 from the Rioja a better buy at £6.25. Back by the Thames in Kingston, the view is not surprisingly the outstanding feature of George W. Baron v. Heyl's Down by the Riverside. Little trouble has therefore been taken with the interior: "The room still looks and feels like

the clubhouse bar it once was, reminiscent of beery evenings after a hard day's rowing; the uncurtained windows make you feel like a perch or roach that one of the anglers outside may at any moment fish out of the pond sitting in; and even to reach a lavatory you have to go outside."

On its good days, or in its good dishes, the restaurant earns people's approbation though there is a sense of conveyance, a sense that communication matters to the owner as much as cookery does. There are some good ideas, from "quails in the nest" to "pear. William—a lovely concoction of fresh pear, sorbet, and eau-de-vie de poire Williams." Borchetta and fish soups can be excellent, and steaks are large and tender.

**Details:**  
Gino's, 15-17 Hill Rise, Richmond, Surrey, Tel. 01-948 3002. Closed Monday. Must book dinner. Meals 12.30-2.30 (3 Sunday), 6.30-11.30 (7-12 Friday and Saturday, 7-11.30 Sunday). Table d'hôte lunch from £4.50. A la carte meal with wine about £12.25.

Madeline, 122 Sheen Road, Richmond, Surrey, Tel. 01-948 4445. Closed lunch; Sunday; Monday. Must book. Dinner 7.15-10.45. A la carte meal with wine about £11.50. Partners 23, 23 St Leonards Hill, Surrey, Tel. 01-644 7743. Closed lunch; Sunday; Monday. Must book. Dinner 7.30-9.30. Table d'hôte dinner £8. Down by the Riverside, Canterbury Gardens, Lower Ham, Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey, Tel. 01-546 6562 and 549 3039. Closed lunch. Must book. Dinner 7.30-10. A la carte meal with wine about £11.50. © Times Newspapers Ltd and the Good Food Guide (Consumers' Association and Hodder) 1981.

## Bridge

## Worth the sacrifice

At duplicate bridge it is simple to assess whether a sacrifice is a good proposition. If the penalty you suffer is less than the score your opponents would have made, the sacrifice is a demonstrable success, provided of course that the opponents would have made their contract.

Sacrifice bidding at rubber bridge introduces some additional considerations. This may explain why one expert at my club addresses a polite homily to all his partners outlining the follies of sacrificing, particularly with him.

If the opponents are vulnerable, and you are not, how many points can your side profitably concede in order to save the rubber? Duplicate players who are unaccustomed to playing rubber bridge are especially prone to arithmetical miscalculation. At duplicate, to lose five hundred to save the game at this vulnerability would be a success. At rubber bridge it is a downright failure. The odds count 3-1 against you winning the rubber. There is a further less obvious disadvantage; if your opponents bid and make a slam, they will get a bonus of 750 points, whereas you will only get 500.

The existence of a part score should exert a powerful influence on your decision to sacrifice. With neither side vulnerable, it is good tactics to save the game if you have a part score and very unwise if the position is reversed. Sacrificing when the opponents are vulnerable and also have a part score is the privilege of the rich.

So far, we have assumed that the players are of equal ability. But let us suppose that you have cut the "pond" in two, and even to reach a lavatory you have to go outside."

better of their commonsense. Making the decision to sacrifice at duplicate is a good test of a player's judgment.

East West Game and 60 Dealer West

East West Game Dealer North

Opening lead

The bidding on the next hand, from Rubber Bridge, reminds me of the senseless courage of the kamikaze pilots. Rubber Bridge

East West Game and 60 Dealer West

East West Game Dealer North

Opening lead

Jeremy F

## Gardening

## Spring parade

Many of us spend more than we can afford on bulbs for autumn planting and then either do not consider or cannot afford the lovely bulbous plants we can plant in spring.

It seems a long time since I wrote about bulbs, corns and tubers that flower in the summer, and the varieties of gladioli now on offer in the catalogues are quite different from those I grew only three or four years ago.

One must presume that those listed today are the best of their kind so it is only a question of picking out the colours we prefer and, if we want a steady succession of flowers, some early, mid-season and late flowering varieties.

Blom and Son in their catalogue indicate flowering times for the large flowered, the smaller but beautiful Butterfly varieties and the Primulinus gladioli. Unwisdom to this for the large flowered but not for the Butterfly varieties, and they no longer offer the Primulinus varieties.

Personally I have never cared much for the Primulinus type with their hooded or bent over top petal on each flower. For imposing flower arrangements go for the large flowered varieties; they last longer in water than the miniature or Butterfly type.

It's fun to spend a little every spring on bulbs or corms to flower in summer and autumn. Tigrids are gorgeous with their flowers in all across and are richly spotted with crimson.

They last only one day but one plant produces many flowers. In a warm sheltered border in the south half of the country, they will survive all-winter. Otherwise they should be lifted and dried off after flowering. I shall grow some in pots this year to bring indoors during their flowering period.

There is still time to plant lilies. The choice is so wide that I hesitate to suggest one or varieties. But this year we are planting a few more bulbs of "Enchantment", "Bright Star", "Black Dragon" and "Corsege", a lovely small flower.

As with gladioli you choose as your fancy takes you, but I should put in the reminder that *Lilium regale* and *L. testaceum* are still the lilies that will grow and increase in any soil, in town or country.

We all like to have something unusual in the garden from July until the frosts come in the autumn. The summer hyacinth *Gallitima candida*, with its spikes carrying up to 30 or 40 white flowers, is a splendid late summer flower.

Another splendid summer plant flowering from July to September is *Crimson ponellii* with heads of large pink trumpet-shaped flowers, or white in the variety *C.p. Alba*. They need a warm spot at the foot of a south or west facing wall. We put a plastic covered Dutch light over ours from December to March. The clump of the white variety has increased enormously in the past few years and needs dividing.

The autumn flowering colchicums, popularly but erroneously often called autumn crocuses, are worthwhile if there is an odd corner where their lusty but not very attractive foliage will not look out of place in the summer.

They are best planted in a small bed of their own or in

rough grass or a shrub where the large leaves will smother smaller plants. They are a dozen species and varieties but *C. autumnale* his *C. autumnale* and *C. autumnale* are my favourites together with the double lilac-mauve "W. Lily". They may be expensive ranging from 50p a bulb to £1.60 a bulb, but they are a pleasure and enormous pleasure.

Cheaper, at 20p a bulb, is the yellow crocus-like *S. bergia lutea* which flowers in autumn and thrives in a sunny spot.

As I have often remarked the species and varieties of *Kaffir Lily Schizolysipis coccinea* are excellent value. We had a few lingering flowers of *S. coccinea* at Chris and we have made a note to plant the pink "Viscount" and the rose "Hegarty" this year.

*Antirrhinum belladonna* *Nerine bowdiana* will thrive planted against a south or facing wall. In cold climates cover them with peat, leave bracken a foot deep or cloche or two. The *Nerine* around 60p a bulb are a bargain because they multiply fast.

Catalogues which include summer bulbs are obtain from Walter Blom & Co., Coombe Gardens, Leamington, Warwick, Herts; W. Unwin, Histon, Cambs; Samuel Dobie & Son, Upper Mill, Langdonville, Cambs; Avon Edge, Herts; and others.

As the days lengthen we are reporting plants and seeds. For many years gardeners used seed, cutting and other methods based on loam up with sand and other materials to the John Innes formulae, either partly ready mixed or prepared home. Apart from the fact good loam became increasingly difficult to obtain, it had to be sterilized—a nuisance for amateur gardeners—and it was hard to get it to the John Innes formulae.

Now Phostrogen are selling it yourself kit to make compost suitable for seedling, potting or rooting cuttings very economically. It consists of Perlite, which replaces the peat in other composts, Phostro fertilizer and ground chalk. Have to buy peat locally suitable grades of fine peat various pack sizes are available. Full instructions for preparing the compost are included in a leaflet. This soil-less compost making kit is available in garden shops, but in case of difficulty contact Phostro, Corwen, Clwyd, from whom supplies may be obtained post. If you can obtain a suitably local peat the better the postage pushes up the price.

Several times in recent years I have mentioned the attractive residential courses interest to gardeners and not lovers arranged by the P. Studies Council and I know many readers have enjoyed them. Full details of all our residential field centres in England and Wales may be obtained from Mr. F. C. East, East Bergholt, Colchester, Essex.

They are best planted in a small bed of their own or in

Roy H

## EVENTS

WEMBLEY ARENA ON 01-900 1234  
HOLIDAY ON ICE  
WITH ROBIN COUSINS  
Performances Daily except Mondays  
8.30-10.30. Tickets £1.50-£2.50.  
Car park. Season until Feb. 22.

## ART GALLERIES

AGNEW GALLERY, 43 Old Bond St. W.1. Tel. 01-476 1000.  
ANNUAL WATERCOLOUR EXHIBITION. 1000-1100. Mon-Fri. 9.30-5.30. Sat. 10-5.30. Sun. 11-5.30.  
AGNEW GALLERY, 43 Old Bond St. W.1. Tel. 01-476 1000.  
ANNUAL WATERCOLOUR EXHIBITION. 1000-1100. Mon-Fri. 9.30-5.30. Sat. 10-5.30. Sun. 11-5.30.

ANTONY OFFICER, 1000-1100. Mon-Fri. 9.30-5.30. Sat. 10-5.30. Sun. 11-5.30.  
BANKSIDE GALLERY, 43 Hopton St. S.W.1. Tel. 01-476 1000.  
Society of Painters, Sculptors and Engravers. Contemporary. Prices until Feb. 10. Daily 10-5. Sunday 10-5.30. Sat. 10-5.30. Sun. 11-5.30.

BRITISH LIBRARY, 1000-1100. Mon-Fri. 9.30-5.30. Sat. 10-5.30. Sun. 11-5.30.  
BROWNE & DARYL, 1000-1100. Mon-Fri. 9.30-5.30. Sat. 10-5.30. Sun. 11-5.30.

HOLWORTHY GALLERY, a private collection of the world's most important works of art. 1000-1100. Mon-Fri. 9.30-5.30. Sat. 10-5.30. Sun. 11-5.30.

LEFEBVRE GALLERY, 30 Bruton St. W.1. Tel. 01-476 1000.  
LIGER GALLERY, 15 Old Bond St. W.1. Tel. 01-476 1000.  
NEW ART CENTRE, 41 Gower St. W.1. Tel. 01-476 1000.  
REDFERN GALLERY, 1000-1100. Mon-Fri. 9.30-5.30. Sat. 10-5.30. Sun. 11-5.30.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, PICCADILLY, W.1. Tel. 01-476 1000.  
1. A New Spirit in Painting. 1000-1100. Mon-Fri. 9.30-5.30. Sat. 10-5.30. Sun. 11-5.30.  
2. A New Spirit in Painting. 1000-1100. Mon-Fri. 9.30-5.30. Sat. 10-5.30. Sun. 11-5.30.

TATE GALLERY, MUSEUM, S.W.1. Tel. 01-476 1000.  
PROFESSOR LINDSAY and Professor LINDSAY. 1000-1100. Mon-Fri. 9.30-5.30. Sat. 10-5.30. Sun. 11-5.30.

THE COTTAGE GALLERY, 9 Heron St. W.1. Tel. 01-476 1000.  
German Expressionism. Selected works. 1000-1100. Mon-Fri. 9.30-5.30. Sat. 10-5.30. Sun. 11-5.30.

VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM, S.W.1. Tel. 01-476 1000.  
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The Council proposes to award a number of Bursaries to composers.

Intending applicants, who must be resident in England, should write for an information sheet and application form, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope (approx. 4 1/2 x 8 1/2) to Richard Lawrence, Music Officer, Arts Council of Great Britain, 9 Long Acre, London WC2E 9LH.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR COMPLETED APPLICATIONS IS 13 MARCH 1981.

## The Times Offers Wadered and booted

Every gardener needs a pair of knee-length "hunter" boots and they tell me almost all anglers need a pair of either thigh length or chest high.

Only very rarely have I come across a keen fisherman who is also a keen gardener but today we offer something for both types of enthusiast.

The "hunter" boots are made of the best quality green rubber and are fleecy lined throughout with imitation fur. They are very warm, supple, yet tough and very comfortable for gardening, walking, shooting and all outdoor sporting activities. The specially designed ribbed soles give an excellent grip on all surfaces.

The waders, also excellent value, are made of high quality green PVC, lined throughout with jersey nylon. They are very flexible, tough and durable and very comfortable.

Again the specially designed ribbed soles give excellent grip on all surfaces. Being lighter than many traditional types of wader they are easy to pack and light to carry.

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Reg. Office 16 Golden Square, London W1R 4BN. No. 127567, England.



## Travel I

## End of season sale

Towards the end of December, I ventured to suggest that you might benefit by waiting a while before making your holiday bookings, and even that you should haggle with your travel agent in order to obtain financial or other advantages. My reasoning was that there were too many holidays on offer and in a buyers' market the manufacturers were likely to reduce their prices and the retailers offer inducements to gain your business.

The result of this was a predictable number of letters from ruffled tour operators and travel agents—I had no idea of the complexities of the trade; I was completely out of touch with the facts; I was out of step with other journalists who were reporting excellent booking trends, and so on—and a critical/humorous article. The Order of the Carter in one travel trade paper as its anonymous author clearly reads this column this is the only way I can compliment him on his style, if that is the word, and wonder whether he will quote similarly selected sections from today's article.

But in the face of that reaction and that criticism, what have we here? None other than Mr. Sidney Silver, the managing director of Cosmos Holidays and much respected figure in the travel industry, forecasting "panic discounting" of summer holidays by some tour companies.

"By March, some operators will be paying clients to go away. They'll be selling at 1980 prices, but with 1981 costs." He made that statement (quoted in the trade newspaper mentioned above) when meeting travel agents in South Wales. His opinion of the state of the market is echoed by others who have spoken privately to me but who will not be persuaded to speak for publication for fear of retribution as a consequence of rocking the boat. What is said inside the travel industry does quite often conflict with what is said publicly, and I must confess surprise at the glibness of some of my colleagues who pay on and publicize the claims of "a holiday bookings bonanza" and the like. This schizophrenic attitude is epitomized for me in the reactions to my December article of a travel agent who claimed that he had no need to offer inducements as business was excellent, then a week or so later was offering £4 per person off the cost of any holiday to those who clipped a coupon

from his local newspaper advertisement.

Obviously, not all is gloom and despondency. Individual companies may be doing particularly well to one destination or another, for instance, and some of the smaller specialist operators are reasonably content with 1981 prospects. But overall the market for summer holidays is down and, as the number of holidays on offer was increased by something like 20 per cent over the 1980 figure anyway, I can understand why the travel trade is anxious to get things moving.

A lack of bookings affects us, as holidaymakers, in two ways. First, a particular holiday that is not doing well will often be amalgamated with another in the brochure—the trade calls this "consolidation", and I have written about it here previously. Because of it we find our plans having to be altered, and extremely inconvenient it can be.

Second, that surplus of empty seats on the charter holiday flights, or some of it, can find its way on to the market via the "bucket shops"—about which I have also written, and the origin of whose name I am still seeking. This week I talked with the proprietor of one such shop who tells me he is being flooded with seats for disposal.

Remembering to make an allowance for his understandable enthusiasm and/or bias, the fact that he claims "25 per cent more seats available than last year" might be of interest. It certainly will be to that growing number of people who choose to purchase cut price tickets and assemble their own holidays from the offers of villa and hotel accommodation that are made via the small advertisement columns of this and other newspapers.

To the embarrassment of the tour companies such independently minded people often travel in company with those who have purchased the complete "package holiday", and upset the latter by confiding how much they paid for their ticket. They sometimes though not so often go further and compare the cost of their independently assembled holiday with that of the pre-packaged variety, to the detriment of the latter.

An indication of what is to come has been given by the cutting of prices on British Airways Sovereign winter holidays—a sort of end of season sale. And I received news this week that Blue Sky holidays,

part of the British Caledonian travel group, is offering substantial discounts on holidays this month. Up to £20 is being cut from the holiday of seven night holidays, and up to £40 on fourteen night holidays.

As a result of introducing Tristar on its routes six months ago, British West Indian Airways have a lot of extra seats to sell, and have reduced Advance Purchase Excursion (APEX) fares on the services to Trinidad and Barbados. The low season return fare to Trinidad has been cut by £78 to £290, and the high season fare is £340 return—a cut of £126. Those new fares take effect immediately, although one must make allowance for the time required by the rules of advance purchase. The new fares to Barbados take effect on April 1. The basic season return is £224, a reduction of £71.50, and the peak season return will be £350, a reduction of £38. I imagine that these, and other reduced fares, should eventually affect the price of inclusive holidays based on BWA flights.

Returning to the subject of inclusive holidays, the tour companies are anxious to avoid a price cutting free-for-all and some are reminding travel agents that no holiday should be offered at a price below that printed in the brochure without the consent of the tour company. I have the impression that the harsh realities of the present market place may cause operators and agents increasingly to overlook that aspect of their business arrangements.

And, with due acknowledgment to the travel trade press, I will return to the comments of Mr. Silver at that meeting in South Wales. Commenting that some tour operators with their own airline might be looking cheap because they can keep their aircraft flying, he acknowledged that there was already some dumping of seats on to the discount market. "That's fine for the public, but it could be dangerous", he is reported as saying. "It is suggesting that anyone is going to go bust, but one or two people are going to take risks and may be financially stretched."

I wonder who he has in mind? Perhaps I shall have to ask my knowledgeable colleagues on the business news pages, who know so much more about the intricacies of finance than I.

John Carter

## Travel II

## No wonder tenors want to go back



Viesti sul Mare, one of southern Italy's many attractive resorts.

Mixed impressions, mixed feelings are what one must bring back from a three-day trip around the Campania and Basilicata regions of southern Italy, especially as the project was designed specifically by the Italian State Tourist Board to show European journalists that despite the devastation of the earthquake on November 23 there are ready, able and eager to welcome visitors this year.

Some of the best known resorts in Europe are in these parts and it must be said that at a quick glance they appear to have suffered little from the disaster, the full force of which is stated officially to have left some 3,600 dead, 8,400 injured and many thousands homeless. In Naples many old buildings gave way under the strain. But it is said in the city that had they been inspected the day before the earthquake they would have been condemned anyway.

Hotels escaped comparatively lightly (four of Campania's 1,500 there are 81 that cannot be used and 130 that are partly usable) and it was emphasized that hoteliers had readily put their premises at the disposal of the homeless—the government will eventually foot the bill for accommodation, compensation and reconstruction. Relinquishing schemes are under way and it is expected that some 200 displaced people still in hotels will have left by the beginning of April.

Signor Nicola Signorello, Minister of Tourism and Entertainment, underlined the point that foreigners coming to southern Italy this season would help not only financially but also by boosting the devastated morale of the population in the hardest hit areas.

Our visit coincided with what locals were describing as the coldest winter spell for more than 30 years—in other

words, slightly chilly by British standards—but nothing can chill an Italian's love of the dramatic gesture and it is this utterly different atmosphere that is one of the Mezzogiorno's main charms. Dining at a Neapolitan restaurant, for instance, is a revelation, rather like the San Carlo opera house without music, unless you happen to catch the eye of a wandering minstrel out to make some quick lire. Waiters weave at speed among customers hanging around for tables, spaghetti is juggled in the kitchen and everyone is marvellously good humoured.

And, of course, there is the driving, which all seems to be done in Fiat. Red lights are ignored if the driver thinks it is safe to proceed (Italian drivers are great optimists) and the green "Avanti!" is a signal for pedestrians to race for ancient mariners—we have less than two hours at Pompeii with an excellent guide who knows every stone of the place and is disturbed at the way frescoes are exposed to sunlight (and careless hands) and superb mosaics are trampled underfoot. Italy treats its priceless Roman remains with an insouciance that must horrify foreign museum curators.

By a disastrous irony, the ruins that have endured at Pompeii since Vesuvius wrecked havoc in AD 79 were damaged by last November's quake, so much so that the ghost city was closed to the public and only reopened this month. Some of the avenues signposted "Pericolo", are still fenced off but there is much to see, including the house of the two bachelor Vetii brothers with its murals and priapic fertility symbols standing up well under the searching scrutiny of centuries.

We approached Sorrento in the best possible way, from the sea, aboard the hydrofoil. Amarietia after our stops at Ischia and Capri. Sorrento has been a holiday centre since Augustus and Tiberius, but its charms were not apparent to some holidaymakers from north-east England who told me that their package had been far from ideal and that high prices in restaurants and hotels bore little relation to those in the shops.

On the other hand, I was stopped in the street by a Sorrento resident who said his wife was English. She bought The Times, Telegraph and Mail every day, and I was to write that the town was beautiful and unaffected by the quake. In fact, one hotel was destroyed and another badly damaged but it is an attractive spot and I can understand why so many tenors want to return to it.

Maratea, a four-hour coach drive from Amalfi—and it is a spectacular coastal route until you hit the autostrada—is equally charming with its narrow, steep streets in the old town and the dominant Monte San Biagio (named for Maratea's patron saint) topped by Bruno Zevi's 72ft-high statue of Christ.

So many tantalizing glimpses, so many intriguing stones left unturned... but plenty to indicate that in its irresistible way the south is rising again.

Richard Bruton

## Drink

## Out of the rocks

The Dao region in north Portugal is wild, remote, picturesque. It is almost enclosed by mountains, the summers are warm but the winters can be bitterly cold and wet. The vines, in plots between the terraced, mostly trained low on wires. The soil—if such it can be termed—is granite, so that planting has to be done by battering holes in the rock, or blasting.

It is an exhilarating place to explore, perhaps from the exuberantly baroque and blue-tiled Palace Hotel at Bussaco, which has its own unique wines: this is an hour's drive from the Dao capital, Viseu, a charming, historic town. The local restaurants (the Corrico is outstanding) feature the robust regional fare, including game, wild and dishes redolent of the mountain herbs also home produced brandies, one of these being a curious "aguardiente velho" containing olives.

Viseu is the headquarters of the Federação dos Vinicultores do Dao. They can, on request, provide detailed information for the seriously interested and their seal must be on every bottle of Dao shipped. They stress the importance of cultivating the local vine varieties, as they do not want any modification of traditional Dao style by the introduction of other European wine grapes. This accords with wise Portuguese wine policy of making no compromise about names of "commercializing" historic wines into insipidity. Indeed, Dao cannot be compared with any other wine and, from the numerous examples now on sale, each individual, there is a uniformly high quality maintained.

About 90 per cent of Dao is red but some white grapes are used even for this.

Most of the wines are handled by the cooperatives, although there are some individual estates. As much of the wine goes through installations which may or may not be in the area, it is the name of this

firm that is important when distinguishing between different styles. Vintages do not seem to vary much, unless there is a disastrous year and all the red wines get some maturation in wood, varying from 18 months to four years, the "reservas" being aged for longest. In general, 10 years is a good life for most Daos, when the dark ruby tone lightens slightly, the aroma becomes more enticing, the flavour develops a soft, lingering character, and the fruit is attenuated.

The whites, as might be expected, do not seem to improve much after a few years and they are big, dry wines. Grillo Wines (Little Knox-bridge, Cranbrook Road, Supplehurst, Kent) have the white Terras Altas 1975 of José Maria da Fonseca for £2.29 and the Malmos Wine Club (St Pancras Chambers, Euston Road, NW1) have the white 1969 Garrafeira Particular of Caves Alameda for £3.65. Both are too bold for aperitif drinking, but good with the seasoned cod recipes so much a speciality of Portugal. The Terras Altas is minerally dry, evocative of its granite and schist vineyards, the Alameda more graceful.

The 1972 Conde de Santar, trim, close-knit and individual, is among the red Daos available here—£2.20 from some branches of Victoria Wine, or on order from them. A highly esteemed wine is the 1971 Ribalonga, costing £2.20 from Cullens, Wine Mart and Gourmet & Goblet branches (head office 142 Battersea Park Road, SW11). Ribalonga wines usually possess elegance and give the drinker something to discuss. Grillo Wines list the 1972 and 1976 Terras Altas, costing £2.73 and £2.29 respectively; this pair shows how a straightforward wine can, with some age, develop a rounded, cosy character.

A dinner-table comparison of these, with their J. M. da Fonseca style, with that of Ribalonga or, as a concluding wine, the 1970 Reserva de Caves Aca-

cin would be very interesting: the Acaico is a giant, the initial smell and even the first taste seeming cold, aloof, but the wine then reveals a warm-hearted flavour with an impressive fruitfulness emerging. £2.98 from Les Amis du Vin, 51, Chiltern Street, W1. Or, for a special occasion, you might compare this wine with the 1970 Reserva de Adegas Cooperativas (their white wines are worth seeking by visitors to Portugal). This costs £2.78 from Grillo Wines and its silky character makes it advisable to serve it before the Acaico wine: the bouquet is fresh and delightfully reminiscent of pineapples, the fine crimson colour and the crescendo of flavour are marked.

One major range of Dao is Grapo, named after the painter whose home town was Viseu. The wines are definite in style, the whites markedly steely, the reds with details of flavour and easy appeal. Grapo Vasco white, 1978, costs £2.65, the 1976 red (which will improve for several years) is the same price, both being available from Bennetts of Kingston, Kendal Milne of Manchester, and Carrefour Hypermarkets.

A smoother version, Grapo Vasco 1973, costs £2.85 from Edward Sheldon, Shipston-on-Stour, Gloucestershire, or, as a wine to end a dinner on a high note, there is the 1972 Reserva for £3.25 from Les Amis du Vin, Edward Sheldon and Carrefour Hypermarkets.

For a party, the Grapo Vasco 1970 in magnum is a bargain at £5.17 and United Kingdom representatives Rawlings Voigt, 228, Waterloo Station Approach, SE1, will advise inquiries about stockists. Most red Daos seem to benefit by being opened or decanted in advance of drinking and they appear to remain pleasantly so for 36 hours, although, understandably, some bouquet is lost, virtually no flavour seems to decline.

Pamela Vandyke Price

Harry Golombek is unwell. He hopes to resume his chess column in next week's Saturday Review.

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First-class European hotel in the heart of the Costa Brava, idyllic location on a peninsula with beautiful sandy beaches. Every imaginable comfort and sports facilities. Heating, swimming pool, tennis, golf (18 holes). Sauna. Tel. 01034/7232 11 00, Telex 0081-57132 HDST, E. Director, Alfonso Jordan.



Barbados harbour police on patrol



## WE'VE KNOCKED DOWN OUR CITIES

CITY/TOUR	AIRPORT/COACH STATION	NO. OF NIGHTS	DATES	FINAL PRICE	SAVING
<b>DEPARTURES BY AIR</b>					
Rome	Gatwick	3	20 Feb	£95	£20
Venice	Luton	4	2,9 Mar	£105	£20
Cities of Italy	Manchester	7	14,28 Mar	£179	£30
Nice	Luton	3	13 Feb	£69	£40
Jerusalem	Luton	7	2 Mar	£220	£40
Jordan	Heathrow	7	26 Feb, 5 Mar	£214	£40
Leningrad/Moscow	Gatwick	7	28 Feb, 7 Mar	£151	£25
Caucasian Tour	Gatwick	7	14,21,28 Mar	£186	£25
Grand Tunisian Tour	Newcastle	7	26 Feb	£185	£35
<b>DEPARTURES BY COACH</b>					
Five European Capitals	Manchester	8	28 Mar	£176	£30
European Highlights	Victoria	11	14,21,28 Mar	£198	£30

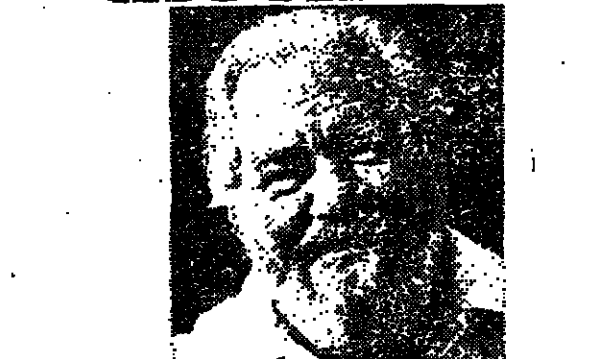
This is just a sample of the cities we're knocking down this winter.

There are many more, so see your travel agent before they're flattened altogether.

Holidays are selected hotels in the cities mentioned. Meal arrangements are for bed and breakfast on city holidays, but most hotels include full or full board. Details are in the Winter Sun and Cities Brochure. Prices quoted are guaranteed lowest airport charges, surcharges and insurance have been included. Holidays subject to availability. ATOL 1232C.

**Thomson Winter Cities**

## Jersey brings out the smiles.



We love to come home for the Hols  
Gerry Durrell

Lee and Gerald Durrell see a lot of the world in their travels but can't wait to come home to Jersey and their famous zoo.

The moment you set foot on the island, you'll feel an unmistakable lifting of the spirit. The unique atmosphere of the place will get to you at once.

Although Jersey lies close to the coast of France, you'll be surprised how British it all is. But this is a Britain with long hours of sunshine, smiling faces, a notable cuisine and an unhurried lifestyle. The good humour of the residents may have something to do with their low rates of duty and the total absence

of VAT, that makes shopping a special pleasure.

The interior of the island is fresh and green. And the coastline will surprise you with its breathtaking bays.

You can laze on a vast, unenclosed beach. Or industriously follow your favourite sport. At night, you might head for one of the discos, dances or nightspots. And after each exciting day, you'll come up smiling for the next.

This year let Jersey bring out the smiles. Post the coupon for literature and details of our fine hotels and guesthouses to: States of Jersey Tourism, Dept 136, Weighbridge, St Helier, Jersey C.I.

## Jersey—the happiest of States.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_



## MOUNTAINS AT OFF-PEAK PRICES

Book with your travel agent before the end of February and save money on skiing holidays in February and March.

HOTELS IN	AIRPORT	PRICES FROM	SAVING
Italy	Gatwick	£97	£20
Spain	Luton	£109	£15
France	Gatwick	£86	£20
Austria	Manchester	£101	£15
Switzerland	Manchester	£128	£15

Prices shown are for 7 nights and include surcharges, airport charges and basic insurance, and a minimum of bed and breakfast. Holidays are available from other airports, and are subject to availability.

ATOL 1232C **Thomson Wintersports**

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cost than you could manage yourself. Write for your free brochure to: The Registrar, Dept. 38, Mermaid Hotel, St Peter, Jersey C.I. Tel: 0534 41255.

**Jersey**





Freed American hostages arriving home—some 200 years ago there was another hostage story...

## How the ransom was raised for the other US hostages

As the American hostages alighted from their white Boeing to a hysterical and well-orchestrated welcome, one wondered what the hostages of the first American encounter with militant Islam would have thought.

American seamen were seized on the Barbary Coast of North Africa in the late eighteenth century and released only after years of haggling by a Congress which set a value of \$200 on each man's head, and even then made the proviso that he might have to pay it back.

But these dirty, emaciated and fever-racked hostages had their own humble footnote in the establishment of the United States as a world power. Their plight led to the foundation of both the United States Navy and the Marine Corps—whose march, "From the Halls of Montezuma to the Shores of Tripoli" was inspired by these events.

The infant United States soon discovered the disadvantages of military impotence. As colonies they had enjoyed the protection of the leading naval power for their trade, some of which passed along one of the world's busiest shipping routes, the southern Mediterranean passage from the Pillars of Hercules to the Levant.

This was the notorious Barbary Coast, the dark skirts of the Atlas range where they met the Western desert. Once it had been a prosperous province of the Roman Empire but after the Muslim conquest it lived off piracy. The corsair strongholds, Algiers, Tunis and Tripoli, were pashalik strongholds, on the pattern of the Brethren of the Coast of the Spanish Main.

American vessels, unarmed and sailing even without the protection of a convoy, found themselves picked off by pirate xebecs and brigs, lying in ambush in North African creeks.

Sometimes the pirate vessel was disguised as a merchant ship. The brig Polly of Boston, for instance, was deceived by pirates disguised as western deck officers. A seaman aboard her who kept a diary of his captivity, said that boarders with "long beards and Muslim dress suddenly appeared on the gunwales, and brandishing scimitars and pistols, rushed through the ship like ravening wolves".

They stripped the American sailors of their clothing and gave them in exchange rags and tatters. They then paraded them through the streets of Algiers "to the tune of huzzas from thousands of malicious barbarians who thanked Allah for such a triumph over so many Christian dogs". Taken before the Dey they were told: "How I have you, you Christians, dogs, you shall eat stones".

The captives were put to labour, in chains, in mountain quarries, cutting stone which they dragged down to the shore to reinforce the quays of the mole. The common punishment was the bastinado, whipping the soles of the feet. While their fetters were being rivetted on the Americans were taunted by the Dey with glances of the "infidels of Washington". He called on the American Congress to send him a portrait of the general "that he might always have before his eyes the asserter of independence and liberty".

The Congress would have liked to have sent a gunboat,

had it one to send. But the legislature was divided on the question of military preparedness and the New England merchants and shipowners were outvoted by the southern planters and frontiersmen.

Without any warships the United States had no option but to follow the European custom and buy off the pirates.

An American wrote that the Dutch were supposed to pay \$100,000 annually for having their ships pass unmolested; the Spaniards, over a five-year period, paid \$4.5m while the Venetians found 50,000 ducats to ensure a free run for 15 of their vessels.

A Congress almost bankrupt in winning independence did not feel itself in a position to match such bribes. At first Congress tried negotiating a treaty with the pirate states, using French intermediaries. They discovered that neither France nor Britain, former allies or protectors, could be trusted and negotiations had to be carried out with each state in turn, using American agents.

The Dey of Algiers demanded \$59,496 for delivering up 21 seamen; captains being assessed at \$6,000 mates and passengers at \$4,000 and sailors at \$1,400. Plus tax at 11 per cent according to custom. Congress authorized the payment of not more than \$200 per man, to be repayable to the government on demand.

Negotiations were referred back to Congress, as in the case of the even more obdurate Tripolitans who, when the two future presidents, John Adams and Jefferson, met their representative in London, demanded a tribute of \$100,000 a year. He later scaled his demand down to a "permanent treaty" for only 30,000 guineas. Jefferson played for time, trying to give the corsair the impression that he was indifferent to the captives' fate in the hope that the ransom would be lessened.

Instead he brought down on his head the imprecations of his suffering fellow countrymen.

The debate now opened on what price was to be put on national pride. Whereas Adams argued that tribute was worth paying as it was less than the increase in insurance on American shipping caused by piracy, Jefferson held out for the creation of a navy capable of dealing with the menace.

He wished to see peace concluded with the Barbary states "through the medium of war," and this he was supported by growing public agitation for some sort of action.

The Navy Bill passed Congress by only two votes. It authorized the building of a class of frigates which packed the strength of a ship of the line into a smaller, sleeker frame.

In the event the United States thrashed out a treaty with Algiers without having to fight. They handed over as a basic payment \$585,000.

The London banking house of Baring did not have enough gold and silver to cover the requirement. The Dey, "extremely irritated" at the delay, threatened to renew attacks on American shipping if it was not forthcoming in 30 days. At the last moment the American agent raised the money with Jewish bankers in Leghorn and Lisbon and the captives were freed.

John Crossland

"So, reflation is out." That really was the nub of Mrs Thatcher's no-cut-and-run message to the country this week throughout what seemed like an endless economics seminar. But it is what is "in" in economic policy that is now the most urgent issue. Have the Government, as an increasing number of people profess, changed course, with ministers ready to die to preserve their right not to say so, or are Mrs Thatcher and the group of like-minded Cabinet colleagues with whom she breakfasts, fighting a battle to hold firm, even get back on course, and so inflict further deflation? If it is to be deflation the outlook is darker than it seems.

Mrs Thatcher is often seen at her best when she is fighting, or rather, fighting back. This was not true of her circuitous television performance in LWT's *Weekend World*. Apart from the saccado and revealing thrust of insistence about not cutting and running she was all over the shop, and extraordinarily negative. She hates TV interviews, even from the affably astute Mr Brian Walden, and it shows.

To forestall protest letters from her large fan club (which are, of course, always welcome) let me hasten to add that the Prime Minister was in far sharper form with a concentrated performance in the Commons debate. Someone had insisted that she put in a positive personal appearance, and she has improved her sepiac parliamentary appearances and the more is the pity they are not televised.

This was near her fighting best. But against whom is she fighting? Judging by the action on stage, it is the Labour Opposition, the TUC, the

Liberals and, yes, even the new Social Democrats, supported by the banks, whose demands for huge new spending and so reflation, must be defeated.

The TUC after all, nicely obliged with their new prospectus for £5,000m of public spending and so provided an easy target. Then, the meeting of the National Economic Development Council at Millbank which Mrs Thatcher chaired was another good opportunity to do down the TUC—even if what ITN called Downing Street sources worked hard to dismiss reports of any clash.

Then there is the CBI. What they urge by way of tax reductions would radically affect the Government's financial posture, even if they profess to support the Government's objectives. Now every sane person must support the basic objective of seeing the country restored to economic health. It is, as Mrs Thatcher said on television "How in the world do we get from where we are now there..." that divided the body politic.

But none of these on-stage personae can actually make a government cut and run. To get the flavour of Mrs Thatcher's resistance here is the full quote of her proclamation:

"Can I say just one more thing? I think that it's just at this stage, when previous governments have begun to get things right, but there have been some adverse things showing that they have cut and run. They've gone back to the old habits of reflation which is a polite word for flooding the economy with money to get jobs quickly, regardless of the fact they lose more later."

Fred Emery

# The lady's not for cutting and running

One unemployed single man is now estimated to be costing the country £4,835 a year—and a married man with two children, £6,006

That can only apply to one event—the Heath government's famous U-turn, its dash for growth. Although Mrs Thatcher now grandly consigns the past 25 years to the political scrap heap—Macmillan's time along with Heath's—the only government that in her view could remotely have been "getting things right" was Mr Heath's. She knows. She was there, in his Cabinet.

But my point is so were most of the rest of the present Cabinet. They have not all learnt their monetarist lessons; some of the political heavyweights like Lord Carrington, Mr Whitelaw, and Mr Francis Pym, who are removed from direct economic control, have been rather holding their breath. Their refuge is that they cannot see any alternatives, not yet anyway.

The genuine "wets" have of course muted their apprehensions enough. If ever they all got together in Cabinet they could persuade the Government to "cut and

run": it is they Mrs Thatcher must be presumed to be resisting.

The political problem with the whole stance of "the lady's not for turning" is that it appeals only to her most hardened supporters. When the Government does adjust, even modify its policies, it then finds itself impaled on her earlier categorical imperatives and cannot take credit for its realism. It also gives the impression of begrudging even what Mrs Thatcher calls "selective help" to industry.

Take her attitude to the assistance for British Leyland. It was presented to the public as a lesser calamity, than shutting down the whole of the Midlands. No real attempt was made by ministers to champion what was happening at BL as a turn for the better.

There is also apprehension and the need for candour over the effects of unemployment. The Treasury's own written answers state that one unemployed single man is now estimated to be costing the country £4,835 a year—and a married man with two children £6,006. This estimate includes the loss of revenue, plus state benefits paid out—a total now running well over £10,000m, and rising. Mrs Thatcher shied away from this figure in the Commons. She did try, to her credit, answering the man-in-the-street question of why this money is not spent on job creation. But she used only the total of £2,400m paid out in benefits to explain that this would not be nearly enough to create so many jobs, and possibly might throw others out of work, too.

The fact is that it is this cost of what the Exchequer falls to get in as

well as pay out that is driving up Government spending and borrowing. It is making the targets set last year in the Government's medium-term financial strategy unattainable—unless there is to be real, further deflation.

Who else has alternatives? The National Economic Development Office produced a list of industries in Britain that could expand. More than one Conservative reckons that it is time for the Government again to risk picking and backing winners. All our competitors do it while our Government spends the money on unemployment. Can a policy of intervention be called expansion rather than inflation?

It is not as if this Government has much time left to get away from its remedy of taking bitter medicine. It now enters a period of critical scrutiny. The Budget, with its likely higher taxes on drinks and smokes can hardly fail to be unpopular. And, before the local elections, which have so far been scrutinized for what they might do to the Social Democrats, there could be real blows for the Tories.

The industrial worker, above all, will be hit in a big way by increases in council rents and charges for gas, electricity, telephone and rates. All will come in time for the union conferences and the boast now of wage moderation could then go out of the window.

No wonder Lord Thorneycroft was trying to restate a Tory claim for the centre ground. For all the catcalls this week, it has begun to look like the place where the voters might cut and run too.



Karl Schranz: a man who could win at downhill and slalom.

## Sportsview

# Putting the old skill back into skiing

Karl Schranz, probably the best skier the sport has produced since the British showed the Alpine countries what to do with their mountains at the turn of the century, is among the growing number of critics of the present condition of skiing. Unlike almost everyone else, however, he is no racist convert. Schranz raised his voice many years ago, long before the present spate of injuries raised questions about the virtual isolation of male downhill racers from the women. It should be added in parentheses, however, that he has remained true to the spirit of skiing and resisted unhealthy specialisation.

"I warned Marc Hodler, the president of the International Ski Federation, way back in 1966," Schranz said. "They were changing the downhill courses into autobahns, so that technique came a poor second to the straight downhill thrash down the hill. You no longer had to think, to use your snowcraft, your mountaineering."

Soon, he said last week at St Anton, the cradle of not only

Alpine skiing but also of Schranz himself, we would be moving towards the kilometre lance if we were not careful—a reference to the track high up in the Italian Alps in the shadow of the Matterhorn, where speeds of 200 kph (120 mph) and more are achieved on a straight course at a terrifyingly steep angle. It must come near to free falling.

Schranz speaks with some authority, a man who gained his first international downhill victory at the age of 17 and his last 15 years later in 1972, when he was never hurt, a cosmetic conversion of the challenging, Hahnenkamm at Kitzbühel but also a second downhill on the same course within 24 hours. Altogether he reckons to have won 30 international races and about 45 altogether.

Add the races he failed to win and you could tremble that he was changing the downhill into a series of autobahns, so that technique came a poor second to the straight downhill thrash down the hill. You no longer had to think, to use your snowcraft, your mountaineering."

capable of winning a slalom, too. There lies the secret.

Schranz, a welcoming Anglophile, maintains that the sport must get back to its former character, where a downhill would not ski like a cow through slalom gates and the slalom would not be daunted by straight running. "It would have to be step by step," he says, "because you can't change things overnight." It makes a mockery of the sport when a man can come in low down in both downhill and slalom (or giant slalom) and still do well in the combined, a competition based upon the two that yields lucrative World Cup points.

Some downhillers, he thought, would find the change almost impossible to make. Others would readily adapt. Given the time to train slalom. He was unwilling to point a finger, except in the case of Steve Podborski, a Canadian who has excelled in the downhill this year, "helped admittedly by the fact that he has stayed in one piece where so many around him have had to encase some part of their body in plaster. Podborski, he felt,

was basically an accomplished skier, who could thrive in the slalom with adequate preparation."

Schranz wants to see more curves introduced into downhill courses and slower flat sections, where "you would have to make the speed yourself." In spite of the qualities of modern suits, skis, helmets, boots, and so on, the speeds have not improved all that dramatically since the tail end of his career. The average now is about 106 kph against 100 kph in his day. But 6 per cent represents about seven seconds or more in a ski race. When you consider that a race can be won by the odd few hundredths of a second, seven seconds is a substantial advance on the clock.

Is it worth the risk? Schranz thinks emphatically not, particularly in view of the unhealthy consequences of training men solely for the technical technique required for downhill running. The technical standards would be bound to fall, and they have.

John Hennessy

## Another stunner from Moscow

Film makers don't come much more amusing than Andrei Tarkovsky. His films, like *Solaris*, are stunningly beautiful but what they are about has dumbfounded even the sharpest critics. The best they can do is hazard an intelligent guess and say so and see it.

Tarkovsky is in London at the moment to launch his latest brain teaser, *Stalker*, which opened in London this week. While here he will give a lecture at the National Film Theatre tomorrow and visit Glasgow. Tarkovsky thinks that by looking for a meaning we are in danger of missing what his films are about.

"You shouldn't confuse two concepts," he said. "Understanding in the sense of scientific conception and understanding in the perception of a work of art. My pictures do not claim to require any deciphering. All I need is for my viewer to enter the world of my films, because art acts directly upon feelings."

"People see art as a charade and start deciphering its vulgar meaning. The purpose of art isn't to teach, not to make people imitate. The purpose of art is to shake people. It should make people change and open up their spirituality, to prepare their soul for good."

"It is unimportant to me what the viewers will grasp. What is important to me is that he should feel something. I must make him anxious, disturb him. Art is accessible to all people with a developed soul, not necessarily to people who are more or less educated, but to people who are spiritually richer."

That is all very well, but what about the critic, whose job it is to explain in words what a film is about? Tarkovsky smiled. "That's your business. It is our business to make films and yours to explain them. And that is why we are always grateful to you when you find things in our films that we hadn't found ourselves. A critic's view is a completely different point of view to ours and one which we can never share. It is better to see a film once than read about it ten times."

This artistic purity does not make friends among the Soviet authorities, who prefer a less ambiguous contribution. *Stalker*, for instance, is a fable about three men who enter a forbidden zone. They are a writer, a scientist and a guide, the stalker. They are searching for a room which will provide an answer to every question.

A political person might think

that the room was socialism and the stalker a Communist leader. A religious person might imagine that the stalker is an evangelist. But Tarkovsky denies that his film is allegorical.

"The idea is that the fate of man depends entirely upon himself. We are each responsible for everything. To believe in the future we must believe in ourselves. The stalker is someone who feels almost sick with this awareness, whose job it is to return people to faith in themselves."

It is not exactly the stuff of a box-office hit and in the USSR his films like *Mirror*, still showing in London, have been restricted to small, uncomfortable, suburban cinemas. When pressure from the West drew attention to this shabby treatment of Russia's most important film maker, Tarkovsky surprised everyone by saying that he could only make films like his in the Soviet Union.

His recent attempt to make a film in Italy confirmed him in his belief. *Homesickness* was to have been for RAI, the state television network, about a Russian who goes to Italy to study Renaissance art, but it was fouled up by money and bureaucracy troubles. "Whenever I make a film in Moscow they always get me all the money I need."

At the moment he is working on two other projects, a personal adaptation of Dostoevsky's *The Idiot*, which he calls "ungratifying work," and another film which he is keeping secret. As for the future in general, he is appropriately cryptic.

"My purpose is to preserve the level of Soviet cinema at whatever cost. Even if the people in charge of me are displeased with the way I work, I will continue in defiance of them. I would like my pictures to have been distributed better. I make my films first and foremost for my fellow countrymen. If I could not do that it would be a tragedy for me and I will fight this in every way I can. "As for the future, I'm afraid even to talk about it, because I have a feeling, some kind of premonition, that I was born with a definite purpose. I do not know how all this will end or whether I will die without ever having realized my dreams. I cannot think of a concrete way of realizing my ambitions. I would like to die a decent person and if I did that, I would be thankful."

Nicholas Wapshott



Andrei Tarkovsky: cryptic. Photograph by David Jones

## Letter from Salisbury

# The edginess is still there

there is the occasional audible grumble about inflation, food prices at least remain among the cheapest in the world, with prime T-bone steaks selling for 45p a pound.

Indeed, to an outsider it appears that the main beneficiaries of independence so far have been the whites. With the relaxation of sanctions, business is booming, bringing greater wealth to an already privileged group which has no difficulty meeting the new minimum wage of £20 a month for black servants. More important, young men are no longer called up for military service and travel about the suburbs after dark is relatively safe.

There are signs that this increased security is taking some roots. At a recent by-election

for the Salisbury constituency of Highfields, at which Mr Ian Smith, the President of the Rhodesian Front, harangued the white electorate in the language of UDI Rhodesia, the RF candidate only just scraped in to the House of Assembly ahead of an independent.

But the whites appear edgy and are highly sensitive to change, particularly when it is a cosmetic adjustment involving the country's colonial past. The changing of Jameson Avenue—named after the infamous—Christened Leander Starr Jameson, the trusted errand boy of Rhodes—to Samora Machel Avenue, and of Kingsway to Julius Nyerere Way, outraged whites, many of whom refuse to use the new names. They take little comfort from the fact that Speke, Liv-

ingstone, Gordon and Stanley have retained their place in the geography of Salisbury—although by all accounts of his character the greatest African explorer could well have gone the way of Dr Jameson.

The edginess shows in the speed at which a hot rumour whistles through the suburbs. Last month word spread that Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, was in hospital after being shot by a vengeful Mr Edgar Tekere. The story went the rounds for some days and a later and more lurid version had it that Mr Tekere had been shot dead by Mr Mugabe's bodyguard while attempting to strangle the Prime Minister. Even though both men were later seen in

public, the rumour persisted for some days.

Integration at hotels which were previously able to impose a colour bar has resulted in some incidents, but blacks are tending to avoid such establishments as the pleasantly-situated Terrastane Hotel where young whites have beaten up interlopers at Friday night discotheques.

Mr John Coker, a black BBC producer, was seriously injured in one such assault late last year.

Salisbury is bisected from west to east by a railway line that divides the affluent, mainly white suburbs of Belvedere, Avondale and Borrowdale to the north from the relative poverty of the black townships

of Highfield, Glen Norah and Harare.

Although people in the townships have benefited financially since independence there is some disappointment that advancement has not been greater. Ironically, the departure of thousands of whites since independence has put an ever greater number of blacks out of work as many families employed more than one servant.

Still, there is buoyancy at Harare's St Peter's Church, where refugees from the rural areas sheltered during the war. Father Von Nidda says: "We had a difficult time but that's in the past. The feeling I get from the people around here is that it is time to settle down to enjoy being Zimbabweans."

Through Salisbury's layers of bitterness and frustration it is possible to believe that such optimism is not without justification.

Stephen Taylor





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## IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF CARSON

Events in Ireland in the past few days and weeks present themselves like a continuation of the old newsreels, old speeches and lugubrious commentaries of television's now frequent Irish history lessons. Train robberies in the Republic, murders and attempted murders of politically prominent figures, republican prisoners on hunger strike, off hunger strike, almost on again. And now the coup de théâtre of Mr Paisley and his 500, reliving the roles of Carson and the Ulster Volunteers. The five selected witnesses, the drive through the night with blackened car windows and hooded escort, the Antrim hills in the small hours of the morning, a parade of Ulster's manhood, under discipline, proficient in a new form of military exercise—arms-certificate drill; and the figure of Mr Paisley himself with a classic Irish speech-from-the-dock ready in his pocket.

There is no reason to doubt, for Mr Paisley is careful in these matters, that nothing done that night was contrary to law, and that his own menaces breathed against the Government were sufficiently vague and conditional to fall short of incitement. It can also be presumed that the explanation of the incident has something to do with the local elections in Northern Ireland in three months' time, in those elections the fragments of organized unionism left by the demolition of Stormont will vie with each other for supremacy.

Mr Paisley emerged from the elections to the European parliament in 1979 well ahead of the Unionist field. He sought to consolidate his position by a show of moderation and reasonableness, cooperating with Mr Adams in his search for agreed devolved

institutions. When that fizzled out, he looked vulnerable. Instinct took him smartly back to his original stamping ground of No Surrender. The meeting between Mrs Thatcher and Mr Haughey before Christmas, which issued in a cry of triumph from Mr Haughey and a disinclination on the part of Mrs Thatcher to say anything very much, provided Mr Paisley with the necessary charge to put himself in orbit again. He chose to interpret the Dublin communiqué as proof that the British Government had determined that this part of the United Kingdom is to be betrayed into the hands of its enemies. The rest has followed.

Mr Paisley is in obvious danger of impaling himself, and if he sweeps Ulster Protestant along with him, of impaling Ulster unionism on the loyalists' dilemma. Unionism stands, or has stood since the foundation of the administrative province of Northern Ireland in 1921, for constitutionalism, respect for law and order, loyalty to the Crown, pride in British citizenship, the integrity of the kingdom. It has stood for a number of less rhetorically impeccable things as well, but it is by virtue of those principles that the province remains grappled to Great Britain. Preparations for insurrection, however shadowy, and menaces, however conditional, directed against constitutional authority vitiate the basis of the union which they are invoked to protect. Such threats make those in Britain who entertain feelings of warmth and acknowledge obligations towards the people of Ulster less than more inclined to exert themselves on their behalf.

If Mr Paisley's latest posture prospers it will be because Ulster

Protestants share in some degree his suspicion of the intentions of the British Government. If that suspicion can be removed or weakened Mr Paisley will be left looking foolish and Ulster looking less ungovernable. It is time for the Prime Minister to make her meaning plain. The Dublin communiqué, as variously glossed afterwards by its two signatories, is a document capable of widely differing constructions. Mrs Thatcher has not been willing to elucidate it, beyond repeating the guarantee that there will be no change in the constitutional position of Northern Ireland without the consent of the majority there, and emphasizing that the word governing the most sensitive part of the subject-matter of the joint Anglo-Irish studies is institutional not constitutional.

These are important clarifications, but in the hectic state of Ulster politics they are not nearly enough. Mrs Thatcher has declined to come before the House of Commons to explain either the details of the work to be undertaken by officials of the two governments or the objectives she has in mind for the process that has been initiated. Now the joint study groups have been set up and official silence is maintained about their scope, membership and guidelines. This furtive way of proceeding provokes the question, why all the hiding if there is nothing to hide? It is high time the Government abandoned a reticence that merely feeds suspicion and distrust, and that has been on it. It should find time with urgency for a full parliamentary debate on its Irish policy in which the Prime Minister herself should participate.

## Government stake in Leyland

From Mr Archie Hamilton, MP for Epsom and Ewell (Conservative), and others

Sir, We are very disturbed by Sir Keith Joseph's recent statement (report, January 27) promising another huge transfer of taxpayers' money to British Leyland. We accept that the decision was a difficult one and we are fully aware of the arguments for and against. We acknowledge the remarkable improvement in the motor manufacturing industry under Sir Michael Edwards' direction, and we have great hopes for the commercial success of the Mini Metro. However, we do not consider that the Government should continue any longer to subsidize the industry. The taxpayer should carry the whole burden and risk of financing British Leyland.

Furthermore, it cannot be in the interests of the employees to be employed by a group which lurches from crisis to crisis, where their fortunes are subject to the whims of changing governments and ministers, and where their future is far from secure. The ambition of the Government, therefore, must be to return as much of British Leyland as possible to the private sector.

Our impression is that the management do not share this aim. Apparently they would prefer to continue to run a large business and would prefer to maintain complete control of all parts of the BL group.

Accordingly we would like any would-be investors, whether British or foreign, who are interested in taking a stake in any part of British Leyland to contact us. Possible participation could take the form of joint ventures, the outright purchase of all or part of any of the four recently formed subsidiaries of the group, or any other proposal that is commercially sound and in the interests of the shareholders and the employees.

We appeal to anyone who might be interested in such a proposal to contact one of us, or to suggest that we can ensure that their proposals can be passed for consideration to the Secretary of State for Industry. It would be a tragedy if the chance of a British Leyland employee finding a more secure and profitable future in the private sector was to go by default.

Yours, etc,  
ARCHIE HAMILTON,  
MICHAEL GRYLLS,  
RAY WHITNEY,  
KEITH WICKENDEN,  
House of Commons,  
February 5.

## Sporting Aeschylus

From Sir Desmond Lee, MP for Epsom

Sir, Entrants for your competition to celebrate Greece's arrival in the EEC (London Diary, January 27) may be cursing faded memories of prep schools long ago (in the case of the older generation) or, in the case of the younger, regretting that they never had a chance to learn classical Greek in the first place. To both groups we would like to say that the study of Greek in schools, universities and amongst adults has been enormously strengthened over the past few years.

The appeal for money to finance the writing of a new course in ancient Greek, which you so kindly allowed to be launched in your column in January 1974, was very successful and the new course, aimed at introducing mature students and adults quickly to Greek, has been one reason for the current interest in Greek.

Although it may be perhaps a trifling suggestion, a crash course for all those with an eye on the prize of an Olympic holiday for two, Dr Jones will be delighted to send a broadsheet listing some of the widely available weekend, evening, postal and summer courses in Greek, using the new course amongst others, to any of your readers who care to send him a stamped, addressed envelope. As for the competition, as Aeschylus said, τὸ δ' εὐκτατόν.

Yours faithfully,  
DESMOND LEE, Hon Treasurer,  
PETER V. JONES, Director,  
Joint Association of Classical Teachers (Greek Project),  
Department of Classics,  
The University,  
Newcastle upon Tyne,  
February 3.

## Planning for growth

From Mr W. P. Bradshaw

Sir, One cannot quarrel with your condemnation (February 3) of the TUC's proposals contained in "A plan for growth in the package deal" which would be inflationary. You seem, however, to fail to distinguish between public spending which feeds into consumption, or simply sustains a growing number of unemployed, and that public spending which would build up our infrastructure and in so doing actually reduce unemployment.

In such cases as railway electrification, modernising our telecommunications network, improving the road system, building nuclear power stations or in the more distant future projects such as the Severn barrage, it is almost inevitable that Government and the nationalised industries must take the lead. You fail to make the essential distinction between meeting the revenue deficits of the nationalised industries, and the role of these organisations, dare we Keynesians say it, of pump-priming as a means of inducing a multiplier effect in United Kingdom industry.

Surely you have been led by the prevailing prejudice against nationalised industries, and perhaps by the poor performance of a few, into ignoring the useful potential they bestow upon Government to stimulate the productive economy and reduce unemployment.

Yours faithfully,  
W. P. BRADSHAW,  
Springfield House,  
Aston Tirrill,  
Didcot,  
Oxfordshire,  
February 4.

## The right to British citizenship

From Mr M. V. Summers

Sir, The Nationality Bill has raised fears in many colonial and ex-colonial citizens about their prospects as second-class Britons, and in none more so than the devotedly loyal Falkland Islanders, who have always been fiercely protective of their British status.

They now face the double-edged sword of her Majesty's Government: from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, who continue to push them to abandon their sovereignty to Argentina, and from the Home Office, who will now refuse many British citizens the right to return to their homeland should Argentina invade, as Nicholas Ridley only recently threatened on his visit to the Falklands in December, 1980.

Having just returned from the Falklands, I am well aware of the pressure put on the Islanders to accept Mr Ridley's abominable "leaseback" arrangement with Argentina, and the Islanders have in turn shown their mistrust in such proposals by refusing the Foreign and Commonwealth Office permission to pursue this line of discussion.

What the FCO has consistently failed to understand about the Falkland Islanders is that they do not want the massive oil and offshore development revenues they are so glibly assured would be forthcoming if the price to be paid must be the loss of their sovereignty. What Falkland Islanders want is to maintain the status quo—British and in peace. Or can we take it as a gesture of good faith on behalf of the FCO that the Home Office considers it unnecessary to make provision for Islanders to return home?

Yours faithfully,  
M. V. SUMMERS,  
Flat E,  
15 Brechin Place, SW7.

From Mr Roger Sims, MP for Chislehurst (Conservative)

Sir, The Nationality Bill has been widely misrepresented by many people, and I am sure you can guess at. But there are others who have simply misunderstood what the Bill proposes. The Reverend R. W. H. Nind, for example, in his letter

## Way ahead in Ireland

From Mr David Morrison

Sir, Professor Cornelius O'Leary (January 16) says that it is misleading to state that "a majority of both communities here is satisfied with direct rule from Westminster", a statement he attributes to me in an article of December 29. In fact I did not say that: to be precise I said that "direct rule is acceptable to both sides of the community".

There is ample poll evidence for this. For example, the NOP survey in 1976 found that direct rule was acceptable to 72 per cent of Protestants and 79 per cent of Catholics. Furthermore mass demonstrations against it are noticeable by their absence, and have been for many years. I do not, as you do not understand how Professor Bernard Crick (letter, January 20) arrived at the conclusion that "many people" here "believe that almost anything is better than the present" political arrangements. Professor O'Leary also says that I ignored the finding of the Moxon-Browne survey in which 35.5 per cent of those polled chose power-sharing devolved government as "the most workable and acceptable" option out of a range of theoretical options presented to

## Editorial prerogatives

From Sir Robert Lusty

Sir, It appears that *Panorama* "journalists" are publicly protesting against an editorial decision by the BBC's Director General, Sir Ian Trethowan (report, January 31), is an act of censorship.

They need to be reminded that their editorial prerogative is above all his other responsibilities, the BBC's chief editor. It is his inescapable responsibility and he is there to assert it.

A most dangerous misconception of our time is that any editorial requirement should be almost automatically regarded as "censorship", which is a very different kettle of fish and never to be condoned. It is not even necessary to know the facts of the matter, but unless an editor is permitted to exercise his personal editorial authority then communicative chaos will result and the whole operation become totally suspect.

## Heritage in danger

From Mr J. S. Curl

Sir, The reason why the nation's heritage of historic buildings is in peril is that the Government has assumed that conservation is unimportant as a vote-catcher, so it is felt that ludicrously meagre funds can be cut further, and the stock of historic buildings put in jeopardy. With no political damage to the Government, the Government and the balanced decisions concerning the redevelopment of Covent Garden, the Conservatives have had a lamentable record in protecting the nation's architectural heritage. The Euston Arch, the Coal Exchange, and many other great buildings have been needlessly destroyed under the Conservatives. The recent sacking of a minister who was a redoubtable champion of the arts, and the decision to permit the

destruction of part of Alfred Waterhouse's masterpiece (once more demonstrate the essential philistinism in the top echelons of the Government).

The Conservative Party (which should clearly change its name as it is anything but conservative where historic buildings are concerned) can expect no support in future from the nation's architects in the fast-disappearing heritage of fine buildings and works of art unless it radically mends its ways. The Trade Descriptions Act should apply to political parties.

I am, Sir, your anguished and still obedient servant,  
JAMES STEVENS CURL,  
5 Clifton Terrace,  
Winchester,  
Hampshire,  
January 31.

But the convenience of the people in West Somerset and profitable railway schemes are subordinated to the prospects of a few bus drivers.

The West Somerset railroads provide the only bus connexion from the town of Taunton to Taunton station and beyond to the city centre, returning their passengers at a convenient hour to their train standing at Bishop's Lydeard.

Last week I passed the Minehead-Taunton bus near Williton. It carried three passengers!  
Yours faithfully,  
CECIL NURCOMBE,  
Egypt,  
Faint Cross,  
Worcester,  
Somerset,  
February 3.

From Mr E. D. Graham  
Sir, Your correspondent Mr McSheehy (February 2) quotes a letter from the Home Office re received stating that "the law is the law and that the only means open to him was to make an application for United Kingdom citizenship".

Fortunately the position is not as gloomy as that. Mr James Hugh Maxwell obtained naturalisation in 1975 by a personal Bill, which was passed by both Houses of Parliament without opposition.

His circumstances, as I recall, were analogous to Mr McSheehy's. Admittedly the previous Bill of this kind was Lord Acton's Nationality Act, 1871, but the procedure is shown to be available as a last resort.

Yours faithfully,  
E. D. GRAHAM,  
Brooks's,  
St James's, SW1.

From Mr Desmond Lee, MP for Epsom

Sir, Entrants for your competition to celebrate Greece's arrival in the EEC (London Diary, January 27) may be cursing faded memories of prep schools long ago (in the case of the older generation) or, in the case of the younger, regretting that they never had a chance to learn classical Greek in the first place. To both groups we would like to say that the study of Greek in schools, universities and amongst adults has been enormously strengthened over the past few years.

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## Junction hold-up

From Mr Cecil Nurcombe

Sir, The threat of trade union domination at national level is manifest on a small scale in the affairs of the West Somerset Railway. This concern took over the Taunton-Minehead line after it was closed by British Rail. Because a handful of men operating a bus service between Minehead and Taunton belong to a railway union the local trains have to stop at Bishop's Lydeard; they may not effect the short run to the junction and Taunton.

British Rail would welcome the junction, providing opportunities for lucrative holiday excursions to Minehead and Butlin's by through trains.

## Coming revolution in employment

From Mr Sid Cumberland

Sir, Mr Len Murray is quite right to call for a re-examination of our notions of employment and non-employment, retirement and the pattern of the working week, for, as he says, "These are the great issues facing our country" (article, February 3). Yet his references to "the ugly and painful running race of the unemployed" and "the hundreds of thousands of others who have been condemned to short-time working" show that he is subject, like most of us, to the rigid conventional view he condemns.

All our major political parties (and the emerging social democrats) find one aspect of unemployment appalling: none of our leading politicians seems to have the slightest idea of the impact microtechnology is about to have on our society. Four times as many people work on the conventional assembly line as on the new robot and computer-assisted Metro line; imagine that ratio applied to all our manufacturing industry. Imagine Fleet Street with its print workers, imagine offices with no secretaries, no filing clerks, no typists. Imagine shops with no check-out girls, banks with no cashiers, public transport with no ticket sellers and collectors, all repetitive mechanical tasks will be subject to increasing automation and we will have to share the remaining work between us. Are the unions going to insist that the Government create boring routine jobs for their members? Are the politicians going to promise full employment, which it will be beyond their power to deliver? Can we persuade the Government to invest in our long-term future as 1975 by a personal Bill, like BL, BSC, and North Sea Oil? Can we remove the stigma from unemployment? Can we become a work-sharing society with our working lives characterized by regular retraining and long periods without work?

Sir Kenneth Corley (Business News letter, January 28) puts the point thus: "Today's problem is to discover how we are going to share work, share leisure, get more work done, raise our production of wealth and live a better life."

The change is coming, and its effect on our society will be profound. We can resist change for a few years, until more and more cheap imports depress our domestic economy. Or we can accept change and start educating ourselves and our children for the future. If we do not control the revolution, it will eventually control us.

Yours faithfully,  
SID CUMBERLAND,  
39 Ridgeway,  
Epsom,  
Surrey,  
February 4.

From Mr Desmond Lee, MP for Epsom

Sir, Entrants for your competition to celebrate Greece's arrival in the EEC (London Diary, January 27) may be cursing faded memories of prep schools long ago (in the case of the older generation) or, in the case of the younger, regretting that they never had a chance to learn classical Greek in the first place. To both groups we would like to say that the study of Greek in schools, universities and amongst adults has been enormously strengthened over the past few years.

The appeal for money to finance the writing of a new course in ancient Greek, which you so kindly allowed to be launched in your column in January 1974, was very successful and the new course, aimed at introducing mature students and adults quickly to Greek, has been one reason for the current interest in Greek.

Although it may be perhaps a trifling suggestion, a crash course for all those with an eye on the prize of an Olympic holiday for two, Dr Jones will be delighted to send a broadsheet listing some of the widely available weekend, evening, postal and summer courses in Greek, using the new course amongst others, to any of your readers who care to send him a stamped, addressed envelope. As for the competition, as Aeschylus said, τὸ δ' εὐκτατόν.

Yours faithfully,  
DESMOND LEE, Hon Treasurer,  
PETER V. JONES, Director,  
Joint Association of Classical Teachers (Greek Project),  
Department of Classics,  
The University,  
Newcastle upon Tyne,  
February 3.

A most dangerous misconception of our time is that any editorial requirement should be almost automatically regarded as "censorship", which is a very different kettle of fish and never to be condoned. It is not even necessary to know the facts of the matter, but unless an editor is permitted to exercise his personal editorial authority then communicative chaos will result and the whole operation become totally suspect.

Yours faithfully,  
DESMOND LEE, Hon Treasurer,  
PETER V. JONES, Director,  
Joint Association of Classical Teachers (Greek Project),  
Department of Classics,  
The University,  
Newcastle upon Tyne,  
February 3.

## Heritage in danger

From Mr J. S. Curl

Sir, The reason why the nation's heritage of historic buildings is in peril is that the Government has assumed that conservation is unimportant as a vote-catcher, so it is felt that ludicrously meagre funds can be cut further, and the stock of historic buildings put in jeopardy. With no political damage to the Government, the Government and the balanced decisions concerning the redevelopment of Covent Garden, the Conservatives have had a lamentable record in protecting the nation's architectural heritage. The Euston Arch, the Coal Exchange, and many other great buildings have been needlessly destroyed under the Conservatives. The recent sacking of a minister who was a redoubtable champion of the arts, and the decision to permit the

## Junction hold-up

From Mr Cecil Nurcombe

Sir, The threat of trade union domination at national level is manifest on a small scale in the affairs of the West Somerset Railway. This concern took over the Taunton-Minehead line after it was closed by British Rail. Because a handful of men operating a bus service between Minehead and Taunton belong to a railway union the local trains have to stop at Bishop's Lydeard; they may not effect the short run to the junction and Taunton.

British Rail would welcome the junction, providing opportunities for lucrative holiday excursions to Minehead and Butlin's by through trains.

## Fugitive memory

From Mr J. P. Smith

Sir, Futile as it may be to argue with a dead author (as it sometimes is with a live one), there is no reason why the record cannot be put in order. In his piece on Venice (Saturday Review, January 31), Henry Green states twice, quite incorrectly, that Marcel Proust never visited that city.

Like the narrator of *A la recherche du temps perdu* (in the volume entitled *La fugitive*) Proust indeed did travel there, accompanied by his mother, in May, 1900. There even exists a photograph of the howler-hatted novelist contemplating the gondolas looking remarkably like Charlie Chaplin in a state of repose.

Yours sincerely,  
J. P. SMITH,  
67 Cherry Hinton Road,  
Cambridge.

## Youth and arts cuts

From Mr Michael Croft

Sir, I hope that Sir Charles Groves's plea (February 2) for support for the National Youth Orchestra will be quickly answered, but I think he is mistaken in addressing it to the Government. It is not the Government but the Arts Council which has withdrawn support from the Youth Orchestras and from other youth organisations, including the National Youth Theatre.

These cuts have prompted widespread criticism. But I suspect that the Arts Council has decided upon them for some time, realising that the Government intended to increase its grant-aid by the unexpectedly high figure of £10m (14 per cent up on last year).

The letter I received from Sir Roy Shaw in reply to an application for subsidy for the NYTOB this year seems to support this assumption. "We shall be losing subsidy," said Sir Roy, "to an extent which would not make it possible to give your company and many others at your level of subsidy any uplift at all."

Indeed our ability to find for the time being a way out of our hands. If this prospect is appalling to you, I suggest your reactions should be addressed to the minister himself.

The letter was dated November 10, a month before the Government increase was announced. The rapidity with which the cuts were then made on the basis of the unexpected increase clearly suggests that the Arts Council had determined to get rid of its lower customers, come what may.

Many people wonder why the youth organisations should have been discarded since the total sum spent upon them this year was less than £40,000. May I explain, therefore, that the Arts Council has been wished to support these organisations in the first place, since the Professional Advisory Panels for Music and Drama resented the use of Arts Council funds for amateur organisations?

Their position was overcome in 1967 when Miss Jennie Lee, as Minister for the Arts, obtained support for the National Youth Orchestra and later, in 1969, when

Lord Goodman, as chairman, did the same for the National Youth Theatre. To circumvent the opposition, however, the Arts Council, under Lord Goodman, funded the youth organisations from a new sector called Education in the Arts, since when the old "professional" argument withered away. It is amazing that it should now be revived with destructive consequences, at a time when educationalists Sir Roy Shaw and Dr Richard Hogart occupy positions of major influence within the Arts Council.

But the Arts Council's educational policy now seems in total disarray. The reason given for axing the youth organisations is contained in the council's press announcement of December 19 last: "The council's primary duty is to support professional work." Yet only last October the Arts Council's Education Bulletin declared: "The educational duty is almost one half of the responsibility laid upon the Arts Council by royal charter."

"Please note," the bulletin adds, "that 'practice' is not restricted to 'professional practice'."

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL CROFT, Director,  
National Youth Theatre of Great Britain,  
Shaw Theatre,  
100 Euston Road, NW1,  
February 4.

## Places at the Lord's table

From Mr Patrick Burgess

Sir, With some two thirds of Catholics now marrying non-Catholics what was simply a matter of principle (understandably not a primary issue to those not directly facing it) has become a pastoral imperative. For the Roman Catholic Church's discipline on admission to Holy Communion is causing real pain at the heart of the Christian community.

First, reduced to bare essentials, this discipline insists that common baptism is much less important than what divides us. Secondly, of those involved, the practice of exclusion seems un-

christian in any but a very attenuated form of logic, and, when set against the example and nature of Christ, the extraordinary unlike him. But thirdly and most importantly, there is clearly nothing intrinsically wrong with such admission, since given the proper dispositions, Vatican II (and earlier practice) allowed the admission of non-Catholics in special circumstances. Should discipline be applied at the heart of families, when what it forbids is not wrong?

As a first step, an extension of the present rule to embrace mixed marriages must be justified, though many of us would argue for a wider admission than that.

The pastoral implications of the rule are also not particularly edifying. Some in practice ignore it, or turn a blind eye, arguing for "cultural lag", that the Church's full perception is simply 15 or 20 years behind what others have realized. Some say that Rome (philosophical) laws bite differently from English (born of experience) common law. Others, while unhappy, feel obliged to comply. To the English mind, unofficial solutions seem spelt by dishonesty, yet adherence to the official position seems equally unfortunate. No Christians should be faced with this kind of dilemma.

The rule undoubtedly mars the image of the Church and its apostolate, as well as the unity and harmony of families. Order is needed, but order is the servant, not the maker, of God's realm of love. Would Christ turn Christians away? Will we sit at different heavenly banquets?

There are families thus divided. They live and create new life together, but may not meet their Lord in the "banquet of His sacrifice" because discipline (no more) says they may not. In the instant of proclaiming Christ's death, are we expected to wound his body further, if that were possible, by such rejection of baptized people. Is there not a real urgency, above discussions, for all of us, to repair this situation?

Yours faithfully,  
PATRICK BURGESS,  
5 Cottenham Park Road,  
Wimbledon, SW20.



















# Put your insurers in the picture

## Unit trust per

## Performance

A-Hambro/Accum	122.4	156.6
Schlesinger Nil Yield	122.2	135.2
M&G/Conv Growth	122.2	230.9
Stewart Brit Cap	121.9	156.4
T&G/Vanguard Grth	120.2	142.0
Target/Growth	120.2	150.5
GT Capital	120.2	187.8
Antony Gibbs M-I Id	120.1	122.6

INCOME		
	A	B
Cabot Income	127.6	153.8
GT Income	120.8	149.5
Kleinwortz Bens HY	118.1	—
Nat West/Income	116.3	135.4
Provincial Life/H Int	115.6	161.8
Allied/High Income	114.6	146.8

T&G/Vanguard HY	100.5	117.4
Gartmore High Inc	100.4	113.7
M&G/Dividend	100.3	128.0
Hill Samuel/High Y	99.6	107.8
Target/Income	99.4	103.9
Lloyds Extra Income	99.0	114.2
Chieftain High Inc	98.7	104.7
British Life Dividend	98.6	94.6

Brown Ship Fund	120.9	144.9
Abbey/General	120.8	141.4
Allied/E+I Develop	120.7	153.9
Intel Smaller Comp	120.3	—
M&G/Second	120.1	164.5
Oceanic/Index	119.8	141.5
Britannia Shield	119.7	160.7
T&C/Whitmore	119.5	145.1

Barclays/Unicrn Recv	107.6	138.5
Family Fund	107.0	145.8
British Life Balanced	106.9	141.8
Mutual/Blue Chip	106.6	135.5
Mayflower General	104.9	115.5
Antony Gibbs Sml	104.5	124.4
Relevance Opportunity	101.9	127.3
Mutual/Corporate Bldg	101.2	127.3

5	James Finlay Internat	124.5
5	Stewart Amer Fund	123.3
5	M&G/Amer Recovery	122.7
9	Antony Gibbs FE & G	122.7
4	Crescent International	122.5
4	Rowan America	121.0
3	Arbutnot Estn & Int	120.3
3	25	120.5

## Problem of catching up if you change jobs

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## Capital gains when you let a property

Danby Bloch a  
Raymond Godfr

Danby Bloch a  
Raymond Godfr

## Unit trust performance

FINANCIAL	A	B	
Henderson/Fin & ITU	157.8	229.1	Craigmont Glt 106.0
Kleinwort Benson Fils	146.6		Tyndall/Preference 105.5
M&G/FTIS	140.6	177.6	Allen Hry & M&G Glt 104.1
Target/Invest Trust	139.8	175.7	Arbutnot Gt & Fx In 104.3
Prudential Unicom Fin	139.1	206.4	Key Fixed Interest 103.0
Britannia Prop Shares	132.4	183.2	Schlesinger Pref & Gt 101.7
Britannia Unit Fd	132.4	168.2	GT World Bond Fund 100.3
			Abbey/Worried Fwd 98.3

Abbeyleavey Tst Fd	131.6	131.6	<b>GROWTH</b>	
Brown Shovel Tst	131.4	131.5	Arbutnch Capital	146.2
WILL Trust/Financial	131.4	131.5	Gartmore British	140.6
SPAC/ITU	130.9	152.3	Antony Gibbs Private	131.0
Practical	130.8	126.3	Bridge Capital	130.9
Britannia Fin Secs	130.2	168.6	Capital Professional	129.8
London Mail/Financial	129.9	130.0	Capot Capital	129.8
WILL Trust/Financial	127.9	130.3	Arbutnch Growth Tst	129.7
Nat West/Financial	126.0	156.8	Trustee Svcs Bk/Sci	129.1
SPAC/Scotbills	124.8	145.7	Schroder Wagg/Cap	127.8
Schlesinger Prop Bnds	124.3	149.7	Wagg/Cap/Intl	127.4
SPAC/Financial	124.3	149.7	Arbutnch Growth Tst	127.3
James Finlay Inv Fnd	121.8	165.0	Henderson/Cap Grth	126.2
Target/Financial	119.0	165.0	Barclays/Unic Assoc	125.3
Arbutnch Fin & Inv	115.8	142.7	Cepel Capital	125.3
Fidelity Gilt & Inv	115.8	142.7	Wagg/Cap/Intl	125.4
Arbutnch Gilt & Inv	110.7	110.7	M&G Compound Grth	124.4
Target/Preference	110.0	115.2	Pearns Provident Unst	124.3
Capot Pref & Gilt	110.5		T&G/Marlborough	124.0
Target/Gilt Capital	110.5		Schroder Wagg/Ven	123.8
Arbutnch Preference	108.9	102.6	Brown Shovel Grwth	123.5
WILL Trust/Financial	108.9	102.6	Wagg/Cap/Intl	123.5

177	Hill Samuel/Capital	117.6	145.7
177	Midland Dryden Cap	117.2	140.0
173.9	Midland Dryden Cap	116.9	140.0
173.9	A-Bambo/Oseas Easns	116.3	145.7
167.7	Pearl Growth	116.1	146.7
189.1	New Court Equity	116.0	142.8
189.1	New Court Equity	115.9	142.8
153.6	Manulife Growth	115.7	152.3
145.2	Royal Trust Capital	115.5	146.7
163.2	Antony Gibbs Growth	114.9	153.6
187.9	Nat West Growth	114.8	137.8
187.9	Nat West Growth	114.8	137.8
135.7	Perpetual Group Grp	114.0	163.9
212.6	Primmington Capital	113.7	170.2
164.6	Schlesinger Spec Sits	112.5	209.5
145.0	Brizmania Growth	112.0	157.3
180.0	Uster/Growth	111.9	118.4
164.8	Widestock Wt Cap Growth	109.2	114.8
164.8	Brizmania Cap Accum	108.7	157.9
146.0	Brizmania Assets	108.4	140.6
170.3	Chonolator Capital	101.8	99.3
165.8	London Wall/Spec Sins	97.6	125.4

Canlife Income	109.7	117.7	1
Cabot Smaller Cos Div	109.0	134.9	1
Canary Bay High Inc	108.9	134.9	1
Key Income	108.4	109.1	1
Alpen Income	108.4	132.4	1
RI Samuel/Income	108.3	122.3	1
Gr Four Yards Fund	107.7	107.8	1
Canary Bay Income	107.6	134.9	1
S&P/Scotfield	107.6	115.1	1
Framlington Income	107.6	131.3	1
Great Winchester	107.5	109.2	1
Midland Drydock Inc	107.3	134.2	1
Canary Bay Income Inc	107.2	134.9	1
Canary Bay Income	107.0	119.3	1
Bridge Income	106.8	133.9	1
Midland Mount H Inc	106.8	—	1
Abbey/Income	106.8	122.2	1
S&P/Scotfield	106.8	119.4	1
Canary Bay Income Inc	106.7	131.6	1
Schlesinger Income	106.5	124.5	1
Britania Inc & Growth	106.0	122.4	1
T&G/Wickmore Div	105.9	122.4	1

	A	B
GENERAL		
WMLA Trust	146.4	255.2
Schrdrr Wger/Sml Cos	142.1	
Wger Special Sits	140.1	199.1
Wgeron Spec Sits	136.5	
Smlr Sml/Spc Sits	136.5	
Samson & Dudley	131.4	148.3
Fidelity Spec Sits	131.2	
Rowan Securities	130.7	172.6

Allied/Fisc	117.2	154.9
A-Hamro/2nd Sml Cg	117.1	174.1
A-Units	116.9	154.8
British	115.8	147.2
Barclays/Unicorn Trst	115.9	148.6
A-Hamro/Rsc Sits	115.5	145.4
Pratts House	115.5	161.4
Eq/Scotbates	115.3	160.1
Equity/Cap Crp Trst	115.3	138.4
S&P Units	114.9	143.0
Pelican Units	114.6	157.2
A-Hamro/Sml Cg	114.5	176.9
Eq/Equikingd	114.2	176.5
Equity/Equikingd	114.2	146.2
College Hill	114.1	126.5
Kleinwort Ben Sml Cg	114.1	-
Minister	113.6	137.2
Vanguard Trusts	113.4	136.8
Equity Domestic	113.3	138.0
Barclays/Uni Gen	113.2	154.4
Crescent Reserves	113.1	138.3
Arbutnotn Sml Cg	113.0	136.1

Chiefdom Far Eastern	154.4	—
Middlean Drayton Jpn	153.1	—
Britnada Far East	152.2	228.7
Chadwell Far East	147.2	165.5
Henderson/Internat	144.2	216.6
Intl Pacific	144.8	—
M&C/Far Eastern	144.3	289.9
Schlesinger Internat	142.5	215.3
Chadwell Far East	142.2	195.0
S&F/Japan Growth	140.2	—
Gardmore Internat	140.6	187.9
Henderson/Pacific C	140.5	—
Crescent American	138.7	157.9
A-Hambro/Chadwell	138.5	205.5
Chadwell Endeavour	138.5	247.3
Schlesinger US Sm C	137.8	—
New Court Internat	137.3	177.5
Govt/Stockholders	136.8	137.4
Schlesinger Internat	136.0	192.8
Chadwell Far East	135.7	—
M&C/Australasian	133.2	287.9
TARGET/Pacific	132.7	157.9

Security Sec Univ Gr	114.4
M&G/American	114.1
Intel American Tech	113.5
A-Rambo/Internat	112.9
London Univ Grant	112.8
Chiefman American	112.2
Nat West/Univ Fund	111.6
Tyndal/N Am American	111.4
Hill Samuel: Dollar	111.2
Foreign Affairs	111.0
Fielding Internatnl	111.0
Bishopsgate Internatl	110.6
Antony Gibbs Amer	110.4
Barclays/Unicrn Amr	110.0
Target: Secur Amr	109.8
Traingout Canadian	108.1
Grievson/Lad & Brs	106.4
Capel N American	105.3
Brclys/Unicrn Wildw	105.9
Arbuhnot N Amr	104.1
M&G/Econ	99.9
Chubb/KUPA Internatl	95.4

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Gartmore Income	105.3	127.7
Chietlain Inc & Grth	104.9	—
Perpetual Income	104.9	—
Matual Income	104.5	134.3
Pearl Income	104.4	128.3
Mayflower Income	104.2	110.8
Tyndall/Scottish Inc	104.0	115.9
Arbutnotn Extra Inc	103.9	103.7
Brimacombe Nat High Inc	103.8	118.1
Antonia Gibbs Inc	103.7	135.6
Capital Income Growth	103.7	—
Royal Trust Income	103.6	111.7
Cabot Extra Income	102.9	122.2
Crecent High Dist	102.5	116.1
S&P Select Income	102.0	120.6
Capital Income	102.0	—
Capital Income HY	101.9	116.9
Tyndall/Income	101.1	101.1
Grieverson/Barr HY	101.0	113.4

Mercury General	126.1	185.0
Kowan Merlin	125.5	200.8
Trades Union Units	125.4	134.0
City Small Cos Fund	124.9	204.3
Days/Union Prof	124.9	185.7
Legal & Gen	124.6	167.8
GL/Fund	124.3	151.0
LLB/Growth & Incm	124.3	156.6
Dividends/Barrington	124.2	159.8
Harbor	123.9	163.3
LL Samuel Far East	123.5	157.0
Dividends/Barrington	122.9	—
LLP/UK Equity	122.6	157.0
Lifelys Life Equity	122.6	162.1
Prainmont Recovery	122.5	—
New Crt Small Cos	122.0	172.4
Archway Fund	122.0	166.4
Caribbean Status Ch	121.3	157.1
Days/Invest	121.2	146.7

GA/G/General	112.1	152.7
M/Allied/Brit Indust	111.9	138.9
Hill Samuel/Security	111.9	135.8
Nat West/Smaller Cos	111.7	—
Nat West/Port Inv	111.4	129.2
Pearl Trust	111.2	137.3
GA/G/Trustee	110.7	137.4
Reliance/Income & Ass	110.7	140.6
Reliance/Sekford	110.7	118.5
AlJeba	110.7	134.5
GA/G/Berbican	109.9	129.0
Britannia Comm & Ind	109.9	137.0
Oceanic/Performance	109.6	132.1
Northgate	108.9	134.9
Barclays	106.9	—
Barclays Unicorn	500 108.4	142.6
Intl Income & Grth	108.4	111.6
Tower Spec Situations	107.9	—
Chieftan Smaller Cos	107.9	—

Gr Winchester Overs	132.4	148.5
Brown Shipley N Am	132.2	148.6
Framlington Int Grth	132.3	200.6
Framlington Amer	132.0	—
Midland Drayton Ovs	130.5	150.5
NPI Overseas	130.3	172.4
Garthmore American	129.4	178.4
Bridge Amer & Gen	129.1	—
Qicr MGMT/Quad Int	128.7	—
M&G/Japan	128.0	139.7
Mersey Music Aus	126.8	174.5
UCL/Well Grth	126.3	176.7
UCL/Univd Grth	126.3	169.4
Schlesinger American	125.4	161.7
US/US Growth	125.3	167.4
Framlington US Turn	125.0	—
US/Select Inter	124.8	166.4
Britannia Inter Grth	124.8	175.3
GTUS & General	124.7	155.8

Amrad	82.7
Schroder Wagg-Eur	82.7
<b>SPECIALIST</b>	
S&P/Ebor Engy Inds	135.0
Key Enrgy Industries	132.0
Britannia Univ Enrgy	131.6
Hendons/Oil&Nar Res	130.9
New Cent Enrgy Res	130.0
Britannia - Com Share	125.2
Chleftain Basic Res	124.3
Garmore Commodity	123.6
Midland Drayton Com	117.5
Mydall/Nar Res	117.5
Midland/Mine&Min	116.6
Ty&C Com & Gen	115.5
S&P/Com Share	115.3
Arbuthnot Com Share	108.7
Target Commodity	104.9
Britania Minerals	101.8

هكذا من الأصل



Edited by Margaret Stone

## Cost of a holiday accident

### Readers' Forum

This specialist readers' service has been compiled with the help of Ronald Irving, John Drummond and Tony Foreman

and reasonable and represents a legitimate business expense. (L&B, Manchester.)

Expenses incurred in travelling to the property to carry out maintenance should be allowable but difficulties may arise if you carry out the repairs while you and your family stay at the villa on holiday. The travelling expenses may be wholly or partly disallowed if your visit is partly for private reasons. Moreover, you will not be permitted any deduction for the value of maintenance work carried out by yourself: that is, it is only the actual expenditure on material and labour and the like which qualifies for relief—not the notional cost which will be payable if you called in a builder and decorator to carry out the whole of the work.

Recently, under the auspices of a well-known tour company, my wife and I went on a 10-day sea-coast tour of France. The tourists were allowed to take one suitcase each which would be stored in the coach's luggage compartment, plus a small hold-all to keep on the coach. Unfortunately, at the coach on Ostend quayside, only one of our two cases turned up. Now over two weeks later the missing case still has not been traced.

At the time of booking we paid an insurance fee to provide a cover for possible cancellation and curtailment of the holiday, medical expenses, personal accident and also loss of or damage to personal baggage and money. The insurance company is separate from the coach tour company. I note in the summary of conditions pertaining to the insurance of baggage there are various clauses which, I believe, could result in our not receiving any value of the missing case and its contents, depending on how rigorously the conditions can be and are applied in the event of us making a claim.

For instance, one condition is: "No one article shall be deemed of greater value than £100." It seems to me that the word "article" could be used to mean the case together with all its contents, or the case could be considered one article and each individual item in the case as another article. Also there is an exclusion condition which refers to the first £5 of each and every claim relating to confiscation, detention, wear, and tear and the like. Quite a lot of the case's contents were new for us to go on holiday.

Could you please say how we stand in the event of our case not turning up? (WJ, Dartford.)

It is, of course, too late to suggest that the local police should be contacted. We hope you did so, and that you advised the insurers without delay of the full circumstances.

Without knowing the contents of the master policy, we cannot give you a definitive reply on how you will stand. It is likely, however, that the £100 item limit applies to individual items within the case (for example, an item of jewelry, a camera, and the like), and it would seem as though the only deduction will be a single £5. Are you sure, however, that the insurance cover was adequate for the two cases, plus everything you were wearing and carrying? If you were under-insured, a claim might be scaled down in the same proportion as the under-insurance.

Sadly, you will not be able to claim for the distress, discomfort, etc. due to the holiday being ruined. The insurance may be on a new-for-old basis (thus paying for the full cost of buying replacements new), but it is more likely that, for the items which were not new, some deduction will be made to allow for depreciation and the use which already you had enjoyed from the items.

My husband, who owns a small boat business in Spain, is owed nearly £900 by an English owner whose boat he delivered to Greece. Once the boat arrived safely, the owner refused to pay, chiefly because of what he chooses to regard as about five or six days' delay, even though the estimate given to him clearly states "this estimate must be given on a daily basis due to existing and forecasted variable weather conditions". Having heard, on the radio, I think, that the costs involved make it pointless to try to recover debts of about £500 here, I wonder what you think our chances are of trying to fight for our money from Spain for a boat now in Greece? I feel very strongly that a wealthy boatowner should not be allowed to do this. (AIG Oxford.)

The legal merits of your husband's claim appear to be well founded, assuming that there is no substance in the owner's complaint. Accordingly, unless the delay was attributable to your husband's negligent seamanship or was otherwise avoidable, the owner will have no defence.

However, there are likely to be practical difficulties in bringing and enforcing the claim owing to the problem of jurisdiction. Assuming that

your husband can establish that it was agreed that the owner would send the money to your husband's Oxford address, it would be worth issuing a summons in the Oxford County Court. Alternatively, your husband could request a summons in the county court where the owner has his English address. As it is an agreed (liquidated) sum payable under a contract, your husband should issue a default summons. The court officer will provide the necessary form (called a "Request") on which your husband can enter his name as "Plaintiff". The fee on a claim for £900 is £25, plus £4 for service by the court bailiff.

If the owner has no address in England you will have to get the court registrar's directions for service of the summons abroad under county court rule 46. If you cannot pin down the owner for personal service, the registrar can order "substituted" service.

The advantage of a default summons is that your husband can apply for judgment on a simple form without a court hearing, should the owner fail to file a defence at the court within 14 days of being served. There are a number of ways you can enforce the judgment. If the owner has assets in the United Kingdom, you can levy execution on them. If he has a bank account, you can get the money from his bank by issuing a garnishee summons. If he has a house or land you get a charging order on it. To find out what assets he has you can summon him to court for oral examination as to his means. If he is abroad you can apply to freeze his assets in the United Kingdom, pending judgment.

If the boat comes back to England, it can be arrested. Under section 83 of the County Courts Act 1959 the court can issue a warrant for the arrest and detention of the vessel. You should also look at section 56 of that Act which covers claims in the nature of towage or by a master for damage to the crew "up to £5,000".

The problems of enforcing an English judgment abroad and foreign judgments in England are dealt with under order 71 of the Supreme Court Practice. A judgment of the county court is not enforceable abroad. However, if your husband takes proceedings in the High Court that judgment will be enforceable in certain foreign countries, namely France, Italy, Belgium and West Germany and certain former Commonwealth countries also, but not Spain or Greece. (EEC regulations regarding reciprocity are not yet in force.)

The owner has substantial assets in Spain, it would be futile to take proceedings there. A judgment in a Spanish court is not enforceable in England because (as we have said) there is no reciprocity between Spain and the United Kingdom for the purpose of enforcing judgments. It is also extremely unlikely that a judgment of a Spanish court is recognized in Greece as a basis for attachment proceedings there.

# Now, from Framlington, an opportunity to invest in Convertible Loan Stocks and Gilts

1. THE AIM of Framlington Convertible and Gilt Trust is to combine high income with capital growth by investing in convertible loan stocks and government securities.
2. Convertible loan stocks come into their own in times of uncertainty. They represent a balance between investing for capital growth in ordinary shares and investing for high yields in safe but inflation-vulnerable fixed interest stocks.

A convertible loan stock is a fixed interest stock; but with the special feature that it bears rights for future conversion into ordinary shares on pre-arranged terms. This means that over and above the usually high and secure yield, there is potential for capital growth if the company concerned prospers.

3. Selecting convertible stocks requires experience and careful analysis. A unit trust with a managed and diversified portfolio is the ideal vehicle.
4. Although initially a greater proportion may be in gilts, the ultimate mix of the portfolio is intended to be as follows:

50 per cent or so will be in convertibles with almost as good growth potential as the ordinary shares of those same companies. The yields on these would be lower than on the portfolio as a whole.

25 per cent will be in convertibles chosen for their yields, where the conversion options appear less valuable. These stocks can be regarded as low priced fixed interest securities, but with a long-shot chance of extra capital growth.

25 per cent will be in the highest-possible yielding government securities.

5. The price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.
6. Unit trust investment should be regarded as long term.
7. The name Framlington has become synonymous with good investment management. Moreover, there are other features to this trust which prospective investors might like to consider:

**Bonus offer** The initial management charge is 5%. But applications received with cheques during the initial offer and until 31st March (or until the trust reaches £10 million if earlier) will be given a free bonus in the form of additional units on the following scale:

From £300 to £1,000: 1% bonus  
The next £4,000 : 2% bonus  
Excess over £5,000 : 3% bonus

**Annual charge** The annual charge will be only 1/2%+VAT.

**Spread** The spread between bid and offer prices, including 2% stamp duty, will normally be a maximum of 5% of the offer price.

**Settlement** When units are sold back, a cheque for the full bid value will normally be sent within 3 days of receipt of the renounced certificate.

8. Units in Framlington Convertible and Gilt Trust are available at the initial offer price of 50p each until 12 noon on Friday 27th February. The minimum investment is 600 units, which cost £300, to which bonus units would be added. After 27th February units will be available at the ruling offer price.

**Other information**

Applications will be acknowledged; certificates will be sent by the registrars, Lloyds Bank Limited, within 42 days.

Income net of basic rate tax is distributed to unitholders on 15th February and 15th August. The first distribution will be on 15th August 1981.

Units may be bought and sold daily. Prices and yields are published daily in leading newspapers.

Commission of 1/2%+VAT is paid to qualified intermediaries.

The trust is an authorised unit trust constituted by Trust Deed. It ranks as a wider range security under the Trustee Investments Act, 1961. The Trustee is Lloyds Bank Limited.

The managers are Framlington Unit Management Limited, 64 London Wall, London EC2M 5NQ. Telephone: 01-628 5181. Registered in London No. 895241. Member of the Unit Trust Association.

This offer is not open to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

## INITIAL BONUS OFFER

of units in Framlington Convertible and Gilt Trust at 50p each until 12 noon on 27th February 1981. After 27th February units will be allocated at the offer price ruling on receipt of your cheque.

Until 31st March 1981, or until the trust reaches £10 million if earlier, a special bonus will be given in the form of additional units, on this scale.

From £300 to £1,000: 1% extra units  
The next £4,000 : 2% extra units  
Excess over £5,000 : 3% extra units

To: Framlington Unit Management Limited,  
64 London Wall, London EC2M 5NQ

I/We wish to invest the sum of £..... (minimum £300) in Framlington Convertible and Gilt Trust and enclose a cheque payable to Framlington Unit Management Limited. I am/we are over 18. For accumulation units in which income is reinvested, tick here. ☐

Surname Mr/Mrs/Miss..... BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE

Full forename(s).....

Address.....

Signature(s)..... T7/2

(Just applicants should fill, sign and give details separately)

**FRAMLINGTON**

### Round-up

## A fresh batch of unit trusts

A spate of new unit trusts has been launched this week, three of them by Schroder Unit Trust Managers. The new Schroder American, aiming for capital growth, will invest mainly in energy, advanced technology and health care stocks in the United States and Canada. The new Tokyo fund, also a growth trust, will invest mainly in manufacturing industries in Japan, particularly in new technology.

The third fund launched by Schroders, the unit trust arm of the investment and banking

group Schroders Ltd which has some £114m under management, is a Gilt and Fixed Interest Trust. This has an estimated gross starting yield of 12 per cent and aims chiefly at a high and substantial level of income.

Charges on these new trusts include a 5 per cent initial fee and an annual 0.75 per cent. The minimum investment is £500 with an introductory discount of 1 per cent of the amount invested up to February 27.

● Rather than launching a pure gilt trust, Framlington Unit Management has brought out a Convertible and Gilt Trust, the first United Kingdom unit trust to invest substantially in convertible loan stock. This offers the investor the combination of the high yield available on gilts with some of the growth potential of ordinary shares.

The managers, who already have £44m of unit trusts under

their wing, envisage that the new fund, with an estimated gross yield of 10.1 per cent, will hold half its investments in low yielding convertibles with good capital growth prospects, a further quarter in high yielding counterparts to boost income and the remainder in gilts.

The minimum investment is £300 with an initial bonus offer of between 1 per cent and 3 per cent extra units, depending on the size of the investment.

The initial charge is 5 per cent and there is an annual levy of 0.5 per cent.

● Another fixed interest unit trust with a difference is one from Mercury Fund Managers, a subsidiary of merchant bank S. C. Warburg & Co. Rather than concentrating on income, the Mercury Gilt Fund intends to maximise the total return, with protection of capital

values given prime consideration. The charges on the fund differ from the usual structure in that there is no initial fee, but the annual charge is fairly high at 1 per cent. This reflects the managers' view that the amount investors pay in charges should depend on the length of time they invest in the fund. The minimum investment in this new trust is high at £2,500.

● Liberty Life Assurance has launched its 2-Year Plus Rising Income Bond, where the yield on the investment rises with the term. The bond has a maximum term of four years, but can be surrendered for the full value of the investment at the end of year two or three.

The bond offers a 11.2 per cent return, after basic rate tax, during the first two years, rising to 12.6 and 14 per cent respectively.

### Investor's week

## The real test is still to come

Gradually, it's spring. Oh, I know that frost in the shape of dismal annual profits and a yet dividend could come from it on February 26 and an unseasonable blizzard of a Budget could blow on March 10. Obviously, the Budget is very early this year, suggesting that Sir Geoffrey Howe wants to start collecting heavier taxes as soon as possible; and he may want to do so because the Treasury has got its sums wrong yet again.

The gilt-edged market will be horrified if it learns that the Government wants to borrow more than £13,000m. Institutions would wilt before a barrage of gilt-edged stocks.

Yet this week the FT index rose from 466.3 to 480.3 and it is encouraging to recall that on January 14 it was as low as 446 (when the eminent were telling us to sell). A gain of nearly 8 per cent is, I admit, trivial—dealing costs are 8 per cent or more and who anyway gets his money right?—but it points in the right direction.

All the same, it is a case of crocuses in early spring rather than chrysanthemums in late summer. The FT index of leading industrials is up 7 per cent, but the FT Actuaries All-Share index of 750 stocks is barely 4 per cent ahead. In other words, a few big names have led the way but most shares have yet to follow.

MAIN CHANGES OF THE WEEK				
Year's High	Year's Low	Company	Change	Comment
119p	56p	BOC	9p to 119p	Broker's seminar
110p	50p	Grattan	6p to 74p	Bid gossip
99p	65p	Hanleys	10p to 82p	Takeover talk
125p	115p	Lee Cooper	11p to 183p	Soviet order
220p	72p	Lorhio	10p to 107p	Year's ligs
Falls				
89p	82p	Allied Brew	3p to 84p	Beer output, Budget fears
141p	70p	Avon Rubber	8p to 80p	Forecast loss
790p	413p	Electrocomp	27p to 643p	In sympathy with Unitech
198p	31p	ICL	10p to 27p	First qtr £20m loss
364p	195p	Unitech	24p to 226p	Poor forecast

over at only £127.5m. A year ago it was £154m.

Finally, the real test of shares has yet to come. Within weeks we shall be in the thick of companies telling us how badly they are doing and the figures they will report will almost certainly look bad. This time last year they were all doing well and it was only in the third quarter of last year that business fell off a cliff.

But the great thing about the past is that it is over. This week Mr Gordon Richardson, the Governor of the Bank of England, told us that the worst of the recession is behind us and we had hints from Mrs Thatcher that her Government was indeed mindful of the need to get the strong pound down against other currencies so that

businessmen could profitably compete with foreigners. Most brokers see annual inflation in single figures by June or July and this week James Capel saw it at only 7 per cent by next December.

From here it is but a step to savour 14 per cent yields on gilt-edged and assume that ordinary shares will be pulled up after them. In time they will, but this week we have reminders not to get impatient. An electronics high flier, Unitech, admitted that its profits were actually shrinking and the shares plummeted. ICL, Britain's tiny computer answer to giant IBM, all but confessed that it was heading for £30m of losses this year. Answers to its financial problems did not seem obvious.

An old ally of financier Mr

Chris Salinas, his one-time industrial colleague Mr Charles Metcalfe, found himself calling publicly for money to save his company Norvic. Luckily for him and his 1,100-strong workforce, Barclays Bank dug into its ample pockets.

Christie-Tyler in furniture joined us with half-time losses and halved dividend, but Blundell-Permeaglass in paints maintained its dividend despite plunging profits.

Lorhio raised profits from £78.2m to £119.1m for the year to last September, after three years of marking time, and the dividend went up a third.

Fears of a BOC cash call subsided after a City broking lunch, while the decision to allow British Telecom to borrow directly from institutions gave a fillip to the whole electronics sector. It was seen as a sign that its heavy investment programme would go ahead to the benefit of its suppliers.

Half of British Aerospace is to be offered to investors and the prospectus was well received.

However, markets do not go up in a straight line. Once we get a cut in minimum lending rate we may for a few weeks have little but a dismal deluge of company news to ponder.

All the same, I still suspect that those waiting for a big financial casualty like a Burmah Oil or Rolls-Royce will be disappointed.

Peter Wainwright







## New time demand

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

\* Ex dividend. \* Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension.  
Dividends will exclude a special payment. h Bid  
cancellation. i Pre-merger figures. j Forecasts earnings. j  
Adjusted earnings. k Ex rights or shares. l Ex scrip or share.  
Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. \*\* A significant date.

	Closings
Allied London Prop 8½¢ Cvt 1999 (?)	\$67 1/8
Bell L. 8¼¢ Cvt 1999-2001	\$91 3/4
Chesnut Water 9¾ Red Pref 1905 (?)	\$102 1/4
Dunbar Group Inc 10½ Cvt 1999	\$103 1/8
Suez Aquilan Water 9¾ Red Pref 1905 (?)	\$105 1/4
East Worcester Water 9¾ Red Pref 1935 (?)	\$106 1/4
Fishery Water 9¾ Red Pref 1905 (?)	\$106 1/4
Eschmeyer 12% Cvt 1905 (197?)	\$109 1/4
Eschmeyer 12% "A" 1995 (?)	\$109 1/4
Hawley & Co 11½ Cvt 1999	\$109 1/4
Linn Mercant Sec 10½ Cvt Ln 2000-03	\$110 1/4
New Tokyo Inv Trust \$50 Cvt 1999	\$110 1/4
Potlatch Corp 11½ Cvt 2000-01 (?)	\$110 1/4
Treasury 11½ Cvt 1998 "A" (*)	\$110 1/4
Treasury 11½ Cvt 2003-2007 "A" (*)	\$108 3/4

	Lastest date of revenue
RIGHTS ISSUES	
NORINTEC (NOV)	Mar 27
Issue prices in parentheses. Ex dividend.	
** Significant dates. # Closed call.	



### Offshore and International Funds

put situations and  
subjects of today into



ound £375 for their Duke of Wellington campaign bag in burgundy leather and filled with a complete selection of Bouquet or English Fern. For ladies there is a matching travelling case at 25, filled and initialled, and with a handle which slips over the arm and so eliminates the need of having to put the case down while dealing with passports and boarding cards.

The Victorian floral poster with its companion 102 toilet paper costs £15 and will be suitable for collection on February 13 and 14—credit orders from today by telephone, 01-836 2150.

■ A bitterly cold wind had lost its way in Covent Garden the morning I went down in search of English cheese and consolation. A young woman holding a baby was standing by one of the craft stalls while a man huddled on a stool, scribbling. She was wearing something enveloping in blurred brown and her oval face was transparent with cold—together they looked like a half tone sketch of a scene from Germany. It can't be

Below : hand modelled brooches in the shape of a fan, £5.95, or a dish of canapés, £6.95, both on pewter plates, or fish and chips in a copy of The Times, £6.95. All from The Workshop, 83 Lamb's Conduit Street, London, WC1.

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